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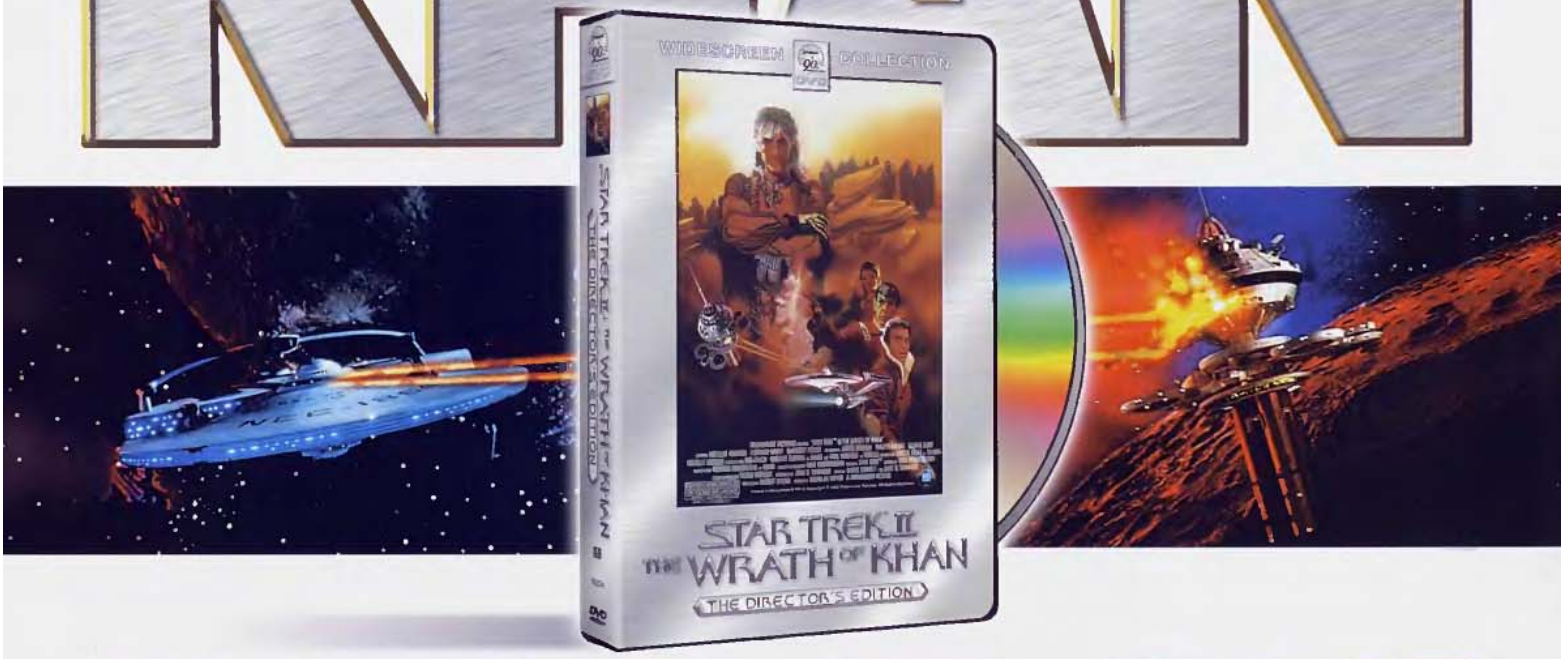

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Paramount 90TH ANNIVERSARY

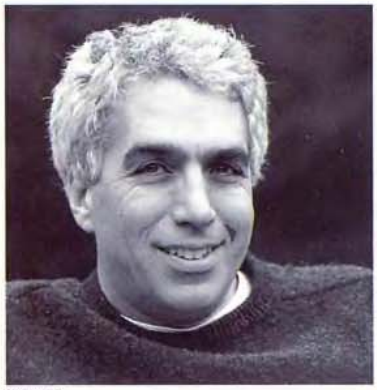
Playbill

THIS MONTH marks the 40th anniversary of the *Playboy Interview*, a feature as synonymous with PLAYBOY as the Playmate of the Month. Aptly enough, it was born with a blast from a trumpeter—a searing discussion of racial dissonance by Miles Davis. The interview was conducted by Alex Haley, who was instructed by Hef to test the boundaries of a long-format Q. and A. Haley went on to interview Malcolm X and write the seminal blockbuster *Roots*, while the feature he helped shape went on to become a heterochromatic atlas of 20th and 21st century icons. Media baron Robert Maxwell once said, "I want to do this interview so I can say no to everyone else who asks me with a guilt-free conscience." This month continues the grand tradition. If a million dollars represents fuck-you money, multibillionaire **Larry Ellison** has enough bank to blow off the whole planet. During the heyday of Nasdaq, Ellison was briefly the richest man in the world. His company, Oracle, is the only software company around to rival Microsoft. And that is just one of the major plot points of the man's life. In an aggressive *Playboy Interview* with Contributing Editor **David Sheff,** Ellison articulates why he "intensely dislikes" Bill Gates (a "convicted monopolist"), calls IBM's database program a "real piece of crap" and talks about winning the America's Cup. Did we mention that he's a ladies' man?

We've all heard a lot about the hypocrisy, hush money and pedophile priests during what is most certainly an annus horribilis for the Catholic Church. Now comes a fascinating look at the corruption from someone once inside the seminary walls. *Sex and Sanctity* (illustrated by **Marco Ventura**) is a cry to the heavens by **Charles J. O'Byrne,** a former Jesuit. O'Byrne left the priesthood when he could no longer reconcile his moral compass with the hypocrisy. Not surprisingly, the same rot now threatens to tear the church apart.

From holy rot to royally hot: **Jordan,** an English-tabloid, Page Three princess with a set of Bézier curves that could bend the will of Gandhi. Her glorious nudes were shot by **Stephen Wayda,** who scored a threepeat this month. He's responsible for all of this issue's pictorials, including that of **Anita Marks.** Marks is a quarterback for the Miami Fury and a player who loves to spread the field. She's the extra point to our annual *Pro Football Forecast*. As **Rick Gosselin** explains, state lines have replaced xs and os. It all becomes clear in *Playboy's Picks* by **Gil Brandt.** Who to watch? Steve Spurrier, of course. Read *The Brat Comes to the Big Time* by **Geoffrey Norman** and you'll discover that Spurrier, the Redskins' new coach, has a gift for inventing offensive schemes, pissing off opponents and winning big. The artwork for the profile is by **Edmund Guy.**

Speaking of scoring, **Lenny Kravitz** has steered a stylish course through the rock charts since 1989. The most startling fact in this month's *20 Questions* by **Warren Kalbacker** is that Kravitz sang in a boys' choir. There's hope for us all—particularly those of us who can cook. So pop *Lenny* into the CD player, step into the kitchen and prepare to put on a show for Ms. Tasty Cakes with *Continental Cooking in Your Crib* by Associate Managing Editor **John Rezek.** He's a tricky fellow, our Mr. Rezek. He'll show you how to present meat and potatoes dressed up as bistro fare. You'll be eating her crème brûlée before you know it. If not, then hit *The Personals*—our short story this month by **Ron Carlson** (art by **Geoffrey Grahn**). It reads like a mental daisy chain. For a digestivo, have a look at Playmate **Shallan Meiers.** She's an au naturel all-natural. Purity never went down so easy.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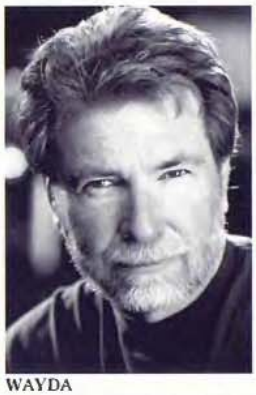
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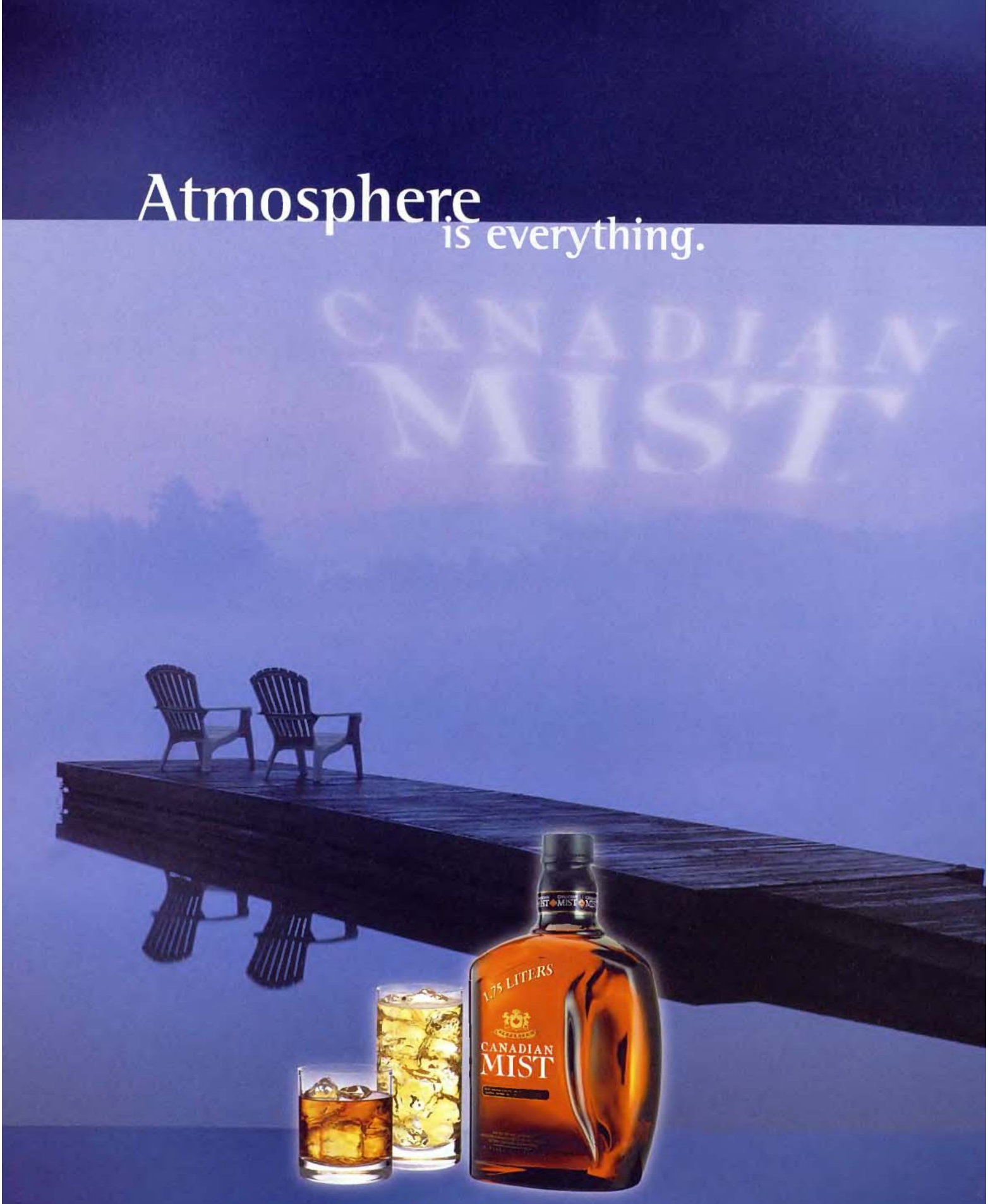

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cover story

Rule Bra-tannia. Pin-up model Jardan is the only thing that gets the British as worked up as football. She's been voted the sexiest person alive and followed by the BBC for her own reality TV specials. It took the king of the Playboy Mansion to bring her to these shores. Cheers, Hef. Photographer Arny Freytag shot Jardan. Our Rabbit is well connected.

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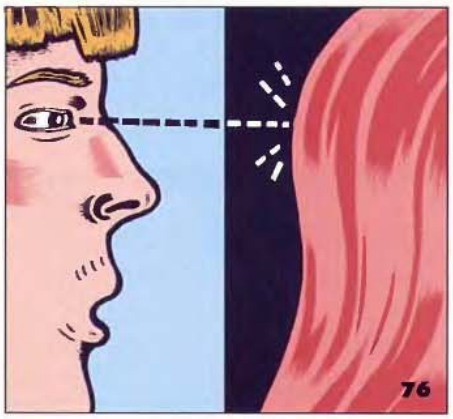

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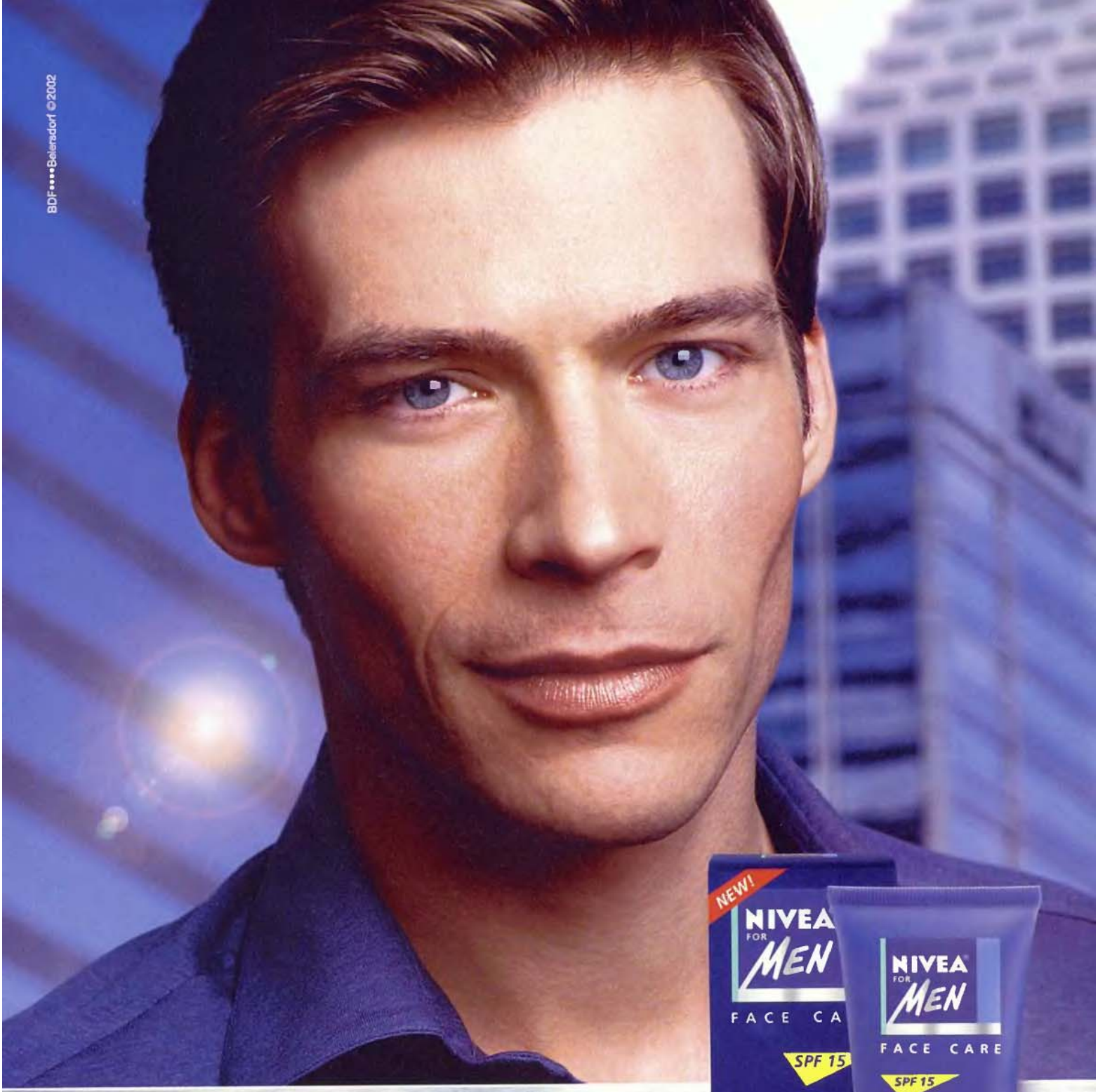

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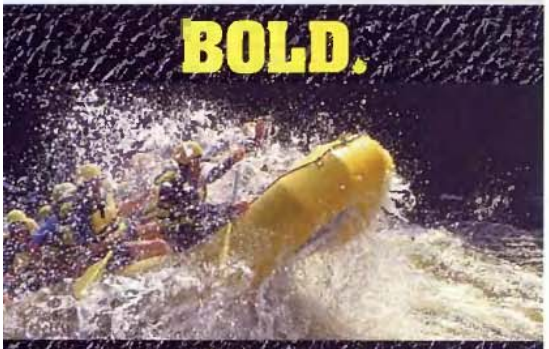

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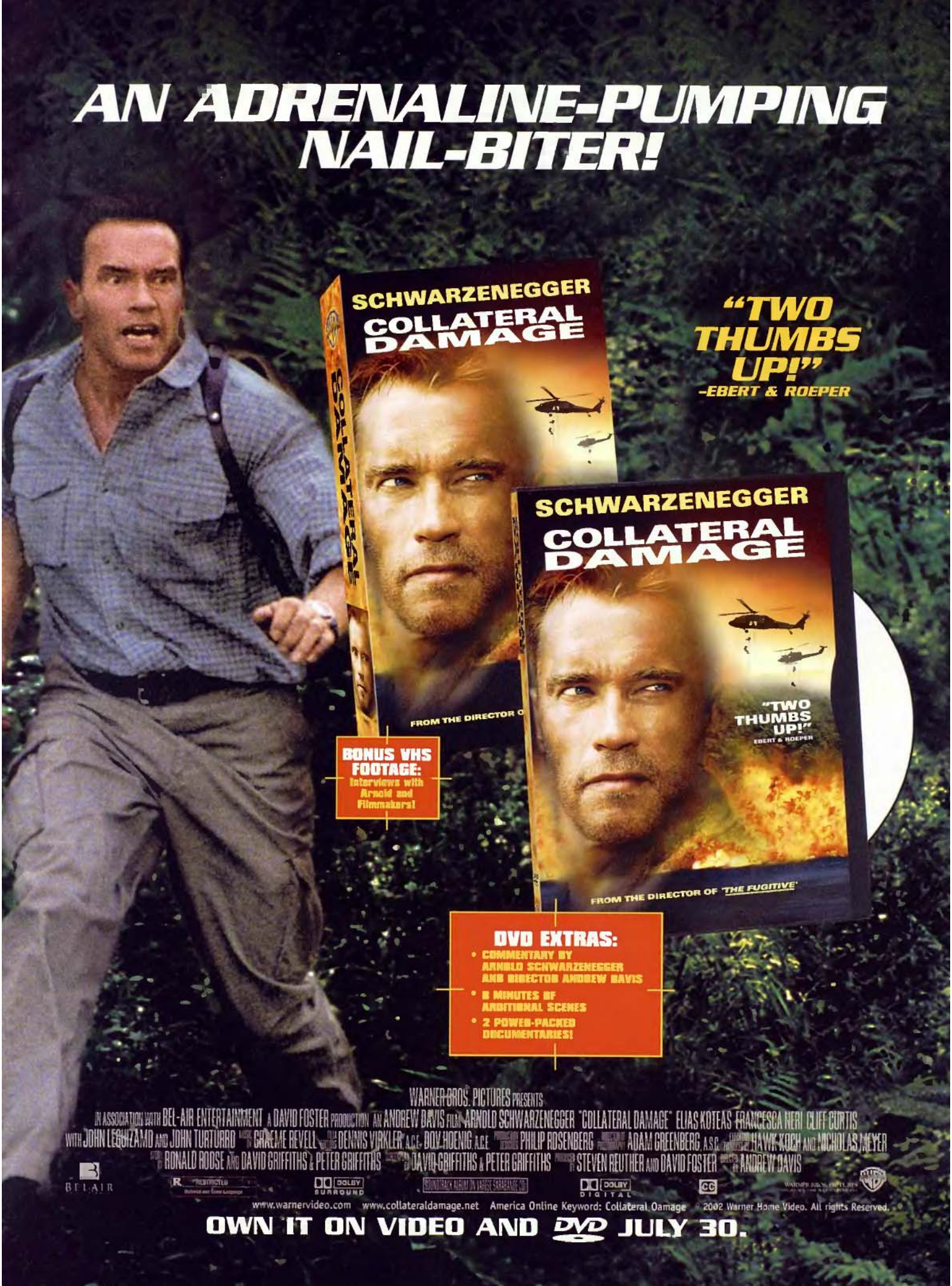

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Hef's annual Easter egg hunt attracted a hutchload of Bunnies, Playmates and loved ones, all vying to find the most eggs and hobnob with Mr. Rabbit. Hef then hosted a press luncheon for PMOY 2002 Dalene Kurtis. (1) Hef with Tina Jordan and daughter Tatiana, Brande Roderick, Carrie Stevens and son Jason. (2) Pam Anderson with her boys. (3) Burt Bacharach. (4) Tina with her bunny. (5) *Star Wars*' Luke Skywalker, Mark Hamill, and wife Marilou. (6) Pam's son Dylan Lee and friend. (7) Lou "the Hulk" Ferrigno. (8) Gene Simmons and Shannon Tweed. (9) Shanna Moakler and Oscar De La Hoya's daughter, Atiana, in the petting zoo. (10) Dalene shows off her new plates at the PMOY party. (11) Traci Bingham looking gorgeous. (12) Playmates Joyce Nizzari, Debbie Boostrom, Venice Kong and Connie Mason. (13) Nicole Narain and Ann Pennington. (14) Garry Marshall emceeing the event. (15) Five decades of Playmates. (16) Dalene with a copper engraving of her coveted cover.

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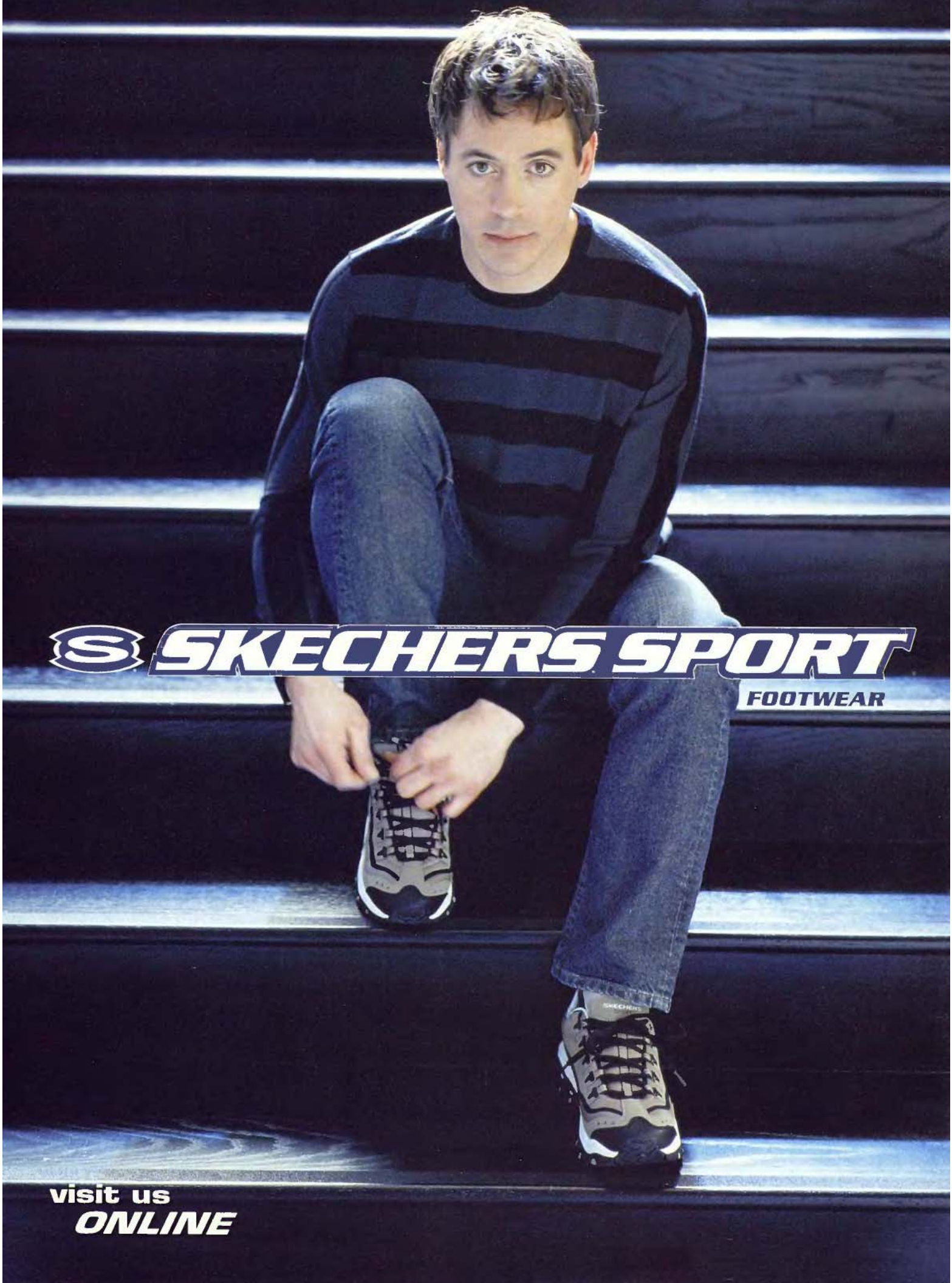
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THE PLANE TRUTH

I applaud Brian Karem for his in-depth research and courage in putting the FAA's dirty little secrets out there (*Air Sick*, June). As the inspector who headed the FAA's Seattle oversight team of Alaska Airlines, I'm intimately familiar with silencing inspectors. I was mentioned in the article, although not by name. The treatment I received at their hands was appalling. I lost both my job and my husband, and almost lost my health. They kept their cushy jobs and even received bonuses and promotions. It's a disgusting state of affairs, and it's about time someone in Congress took action to correct these safety problems before more passengers die in airplane crashes.

Mary Rose Diefenderfer
Former FAA Principal Operations Inspector
Seattle, Washington

Pole position: PMOY Dalene.

Karem's naivete is surprising. If we could save someone's life for $1, would we do it? Sure. What about saving a life for $1 million or $1 billion? At what point does the drain on everyone else exceed what's reasonable? A line must be drawn somewhere, and Karem is simply harassing those who have the thankless job of drawing it. Even if we could build a perfectly safe airplane, no one could afford to fly in it.

Michael Gibbs
Phoenix, Arizona

The government has given the FAA the role of rulemaker for all aircraft operations. But it doesn't back the organization when it comes to policing. For years, the FAA has complained about airport security, but the complaints have fallen on deaf ears. It's a shame that it took September 11 to wake those who should have heard the cries for help long ago. Most people don't realize that flight attendants are there for passenger safety, not to hand out peanuts and soft drinks. We shouldn't let down our guard when it comes to safety, but we shouldn't embark on a witch-hunt, either.

Jason Schmalz
Harrisonburg, Virginia

THE VOTES ARE IN

Congratulations on electing the Playmate who most deserved the Playmate of the Year title (June).

Ron Mac
Fredericton, New Brunswick

Simply put, Dalene Kurtis is your best PMOY of all time.

Jonathan Tallman
Hurst, Illinois

In a year that included gorgeous real women like Miriam Gonzalez and Lindsey Vuolo, I can't justify the selection of Dalene Kurtis.

Colin Jacobson
Alexandria, Virginia

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Dalene does a good job representing PLAYBOY. Thanks for another year of beautiful Playmates and for making the 2002 PMOY decision so wonderfully difficult.

Gregory Hoodin
Cincinnati, Ohio

TOUGH STUFF

I don't think I moved a muscle while I was reading Asa Baber's June *Men* column, "Lou Gehrig and Me." I've been reading PLAYBOY and Baber for a long time, and nothing else has hit me as hard as that column. Baber doesn't want sympathy, so I offer none. Often in life, we don't know what we are made of until we're put to the test. Baber's strength and resolve are an inspiration to me and I wish him the best.

Gehrig and Baber: Lucky men.

Phil DeVries
Gobles, Michigan

Asa, you made me laugh. You made me cry. Your writing has inspired your readership. I don't send you sympathy, but I send you love and admiration, and hope you will continue to write as long as you can.

Tom Stanton
Buffalo, New York

I'm 45 years old, a 26-year veteran cop, and I've subscribed to PLAYBOY since I was 19. Asa Baber's column has always been one of the first things I've read when a new issue arrived. I'll never forget the column in which he followed his teenage sons downtown to teach them how to survive in the city. Bless you, Asa.

Gil Mauricio
Houston, Texas

I send thoughts and prayers to you, Asa, but, as requested, no sympathy. Along with many of your readers, I extend my thanks for your strong stands on men's rights. Please do not go gentle into the night. Kick some ass and keep us posted.

Richard Voorhis
Cumming, Georgia

HAVANA GOOD TIME

A.J. Benza's *Havana Heartbreak* (June) is a great read. I found myself a spectator to this adventure, following closely behind him, seeing and feeling all he experienced.

E.J. DiCecco
Tampa, Florida

Benza describes the ease with which a U.S. citizen can fall for a Cuban woman and then lose her because of the penalties he faces for an illegal visit to Cuba. Americans may travel to Cuba but can't spend money there without a license issued by the U.S. government.

J.R. Schwartz
Boise, Idaho

A JEWEL IN THE RING

In June's *20Q*, Oscar De La Hoya said his last name means jewel. The Spanish word for jewel is *joya*, and though both words sound the same, they are spelled differently.

Wendy Lu
Cleveland, Ohio

Do you want to tell him?

WAR GAMES

Owen West's *Building a Better Battle* (June) reminded me of something the great Prussian general Carl von Clausewitz said: "War is no pastime, it is no mere joy in daring and winning, no place for irresponsible enthusiasts. It is a serious means to a serious end." The games and movies are great training tools, but nothing can prepare an individual for the reality of combat.

Glen O'Brian
Hot Springs, Arkansas

WHAMA BAMA

Thank you for recognizing the Flora-Bama Bar as the best U.S. beach bar in *Beach It!* (May). Since Flora-Bama is situated on the Alabama–Florida state line, Alabama can proudly lay claim to having half of the best beach bar in the country. So how about a Flora-Bama pictorial?

Brian Jones
Montgomery, Alabama

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

I enjoy sports, though I've never been a big league baseball fan. It was a pleasant surprise to find that Curt Schilling (*Playboy Interview*, June), a big-money major league ballplayer, is humble, compassionate and values his family.

Curtis Smith
Elk River, Minnesota

I'm a baseball fan who learned to love the game from my father. I appreciate Schilling's honesty. I'm also glad that the D-Backs beat the Tiffany team from New York in the Series. Baseball doesn't need teams buying rings for their players every year.

Oz Barron
Belmont, Massachusetts

We agree with you. But Arizona, with the fourth-highest payroll in baseball, is also a Tiffany team ($103 million). Boston is second at $108 million.

THE SPY'S THE LIMIT

I've always had a fancy for the Bond women and was happy to see their photo in *The World of Playboy* (June).

Kevin Mead
Clearwater, Florida

THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT

My girlfriend and I vacationed in California, and took James Oliver Cury's advice. We stayed in the Tall and Short room at the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo (*All Night Long*, June). I'm five feet tall and my girlfriend is five-foot-eleven, so we spent most of the time on her side of the bed. It was the best vacation we've ever had.

Pedro Zamora
Hana, Hawaii

HEADS UP

We're Americans traveling in Australia. We love your *Mantrack* item "How to Tie a Turban" (March). Before embarking on a camel expedition across the outback, we each bought a cloth in the exact dimensions you gave in your blueprint, and before we knew it, we had perfect turbans tied. Thanks to PLAYBOY.

PLAYBOY has them covered.

Casey Weir
Visalia, California

Tony Freccero
San Leandro, California

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PLAYBOY after hours

A GUY'S GUIDE TO WHAT'S HIP AND WHAT'S HAPPENING

THE WIDGETS OF OZZ

The Osbournes rule our cable, and now—having signed a licensing deal for such family-endorsed products as backpacks and toys—they want to rule our shelves. Think of the possibilities:

Ozzy's Fortified Wine: Comes in one and two gallons ("vats" to Ozzy). Secret ingredient: 10,000 milligrams of Vicodin.

Iron Man Speed Starch: For wrinkle-free black T-shirts.

Shuffle to the Oldies: Ozzy's new workout tapes. Exercises include Tiptoe on the Treadmill, Shake That Egg, the Arm Wave and the Hand Clench.

Paranoia—Ozzy's Self-Help Answer Book for Manic-Depressives: With cheery foreword by Pat Boone.

Minnie the Wee Pomeranian's Pooper Scooper: Has two modes—wet and dry.

Crazy Trainers: Easy-on, easy-off sneakers for shuffling around the house.

Sharon's Canned Ham: The first ham in a spherical mold—perfect for throwing over your neighbor's fence.

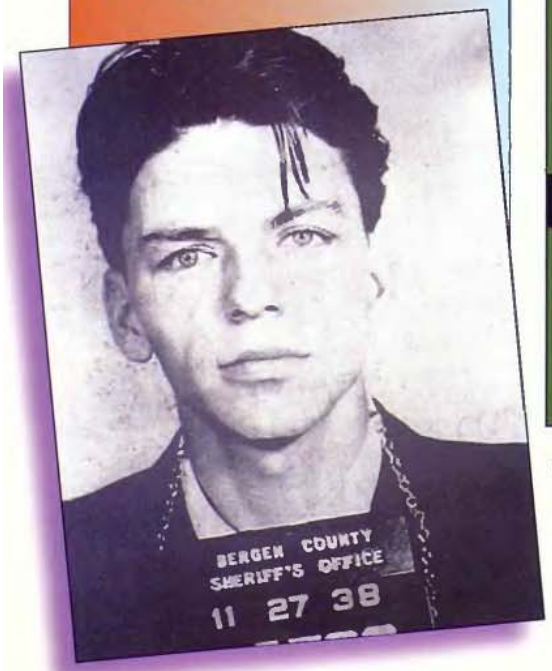
Garbage Is My Bag, Man: Ozzy trash bags, packed individually for easy placement in the kitchen.

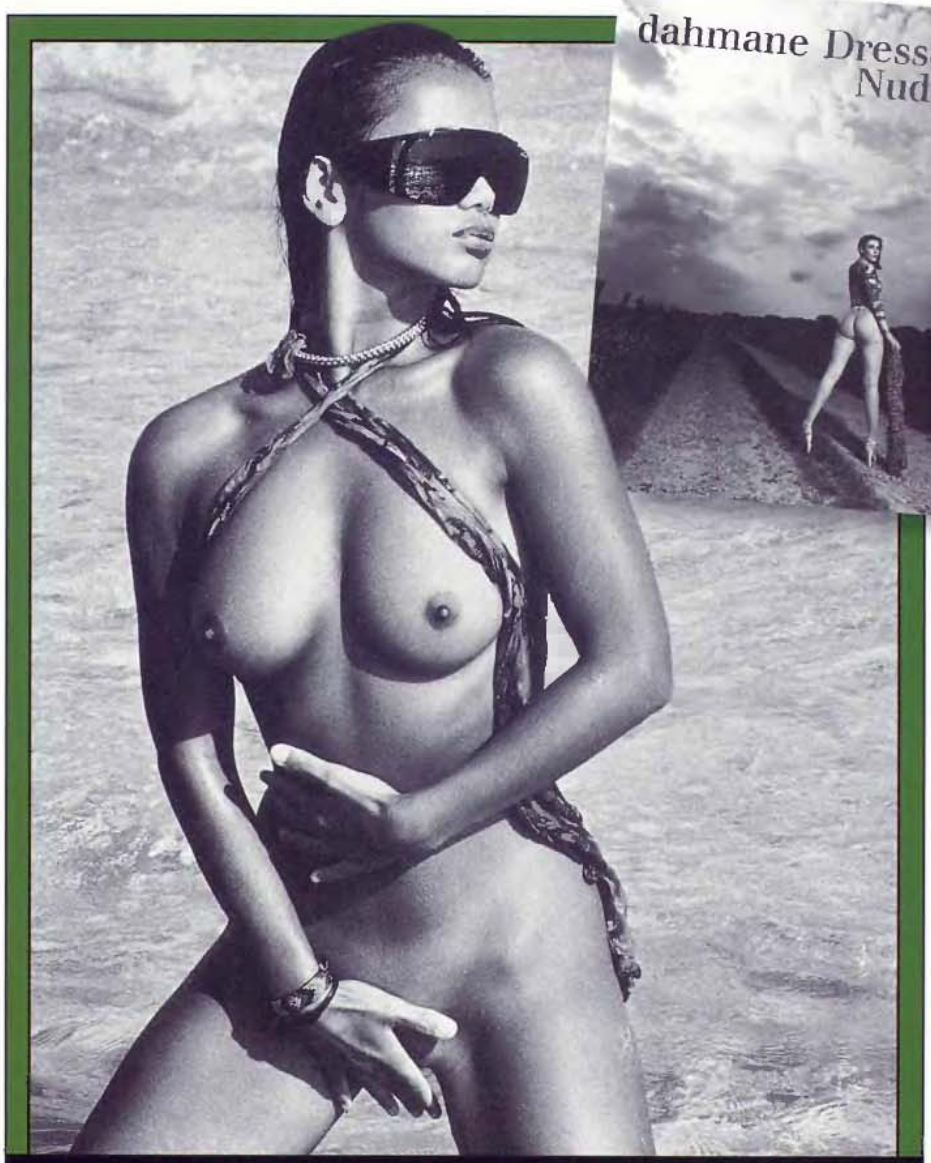
Bat Barbecue: A family cookbook.

Blizzard of Odds Language Tapes: Learn to say "Hezzah fucking wicca fucker hennah denawanna fucking mizz wiffim" ("He's a fucking wicked fucker and you don't want to fucking mess with him") and talk like a metal god in no time!

LET US BE FRANK

Artist Russell Young says his Pig Portraits are a reaction to his old career as a celebrity photographer and video director. His anticelebrity portraits—like this mug shot of Frank Sinatra—speak to "the glamour in the dark side of crime, fame, sex, drugs and rock and roll."





ALL DRESSED UP WITH NOTHING TO WEAR

Why dress nudes? Photographer Dahmane says the concept "gives my pictures a glamorous touch. Female bodies are made more beautiful by the addition of a corset, bra or blouse." His book *Dressed Nudes* (Edition Olms) is full of hot black-ond-white shots of European women in provocative poses. We can applaud his hard work. It's special. Or, as he explains, "The momentary union of a model, her goodwill and a setting does not occur twice."

WAR AND PIECE

Patriotic phrases like American fighting spirit came to mind when we read that sailors from three U.S. warships docking in Australia had a huge effect on the local economy. After serving in the Afghanistan operation, our seamen descended on Perth brothels with such vigor that at least one, Langtrees, had to close after three days because the ladies were fucking exhausted. Just thinking about it makes you swell with pride.

BONG THE DRUM SLOWLY

Much was made over the allegations in *Sports Illustrated* that drugs were enhancing ballplayers' performances. The Bonghitters, a scruffy softball squad representing *High Times* magazine, were not mentioned in the *SI* piece, though they boast one of the more impressive streaks in sports. A game against the Bonghitters in Central Park is a rite of summer in New York publishing circles. Call it pot luck, but at last count, the weed killers were undefeated in 23 games, thwarting the likes of *Rolling Stone*, *Business Week*, *The New Yorker* and even the Bad News Bunnies of PLAYBOY. (Each year, their editor tells us, "You bring your Centerfold and we'll bring ours.") The Bonghitters' heady early days featured LSD-spiked punch, musical accompaniment from marijuana minstrel David Peel (best known for his hit *The Pope Smokes Dope*) and a bong circle around the mound. These days, Gang Green has dropped the acid, Peel is now bench coach and the bong circle is no more, though some Bonghitters still enjoy playing on grass. "Some players smoke up and hit homers, and others run to the wrong base," says coach and senior editor Steve Bloom. "We're a better team if we're not too stoned." According to DC Comics coach Joel Press, whose team tied *High Times* last year but fell 11–2 this summer, "They have a strong team and they take the game seriously. I didn't notice if they were lighting up during the game. If so, it didn't detract from their performance. If anything, I would have to say that it enhanced it." Win or, on the rare occasion, lose, the Bonghitters are unfailingly gracious. Each opponent is treated to a serenade of *Take Me Out to the Bong Game* ("It's one, two, three tokes you're out"). And everyone is invited out to a bar for a postgame party—which nobody can remember but always seems like a hell of a lot of fun.

DRINK OF THE MONTH

Angelo Gaja is one of Italy's foremost winemakers, and we've enjoyed his Barbarescos for many years. He's making new wines (Magari, Promis) in Tuscany under his Ca'Marcanda estate with grape varieties not usually used in Italy. They are Italian wines with a distinctly French flair, not to mention delicious—winners in any region.

NOW, THAT'S A PILE DRIVER!

As the star of porn classics like *Butthead Dreams* and director of the *Fantasiany* series (Metro), Mimi Miyagi is usually the one getting pinned. Now she's training to be a pro wrestler (above) for the new Ultimate Wrestling Federation. "There are times when I get flashbacks," she says. "I begin moves as in a girl-girl act, but then I hear the referee and I'm reminded it's a sport, not foreplay." Right—and this time, only one of the guys watching her is holding a towel.

SOWING WILD OATMEAL

They were both naked for breakfast. He was making pancakes. She thought that would be a fine time to give him a blow job. Which so distracted him that he spilled hot oil on her back. Which caused her to reflexively bite down hard on his penis. Which caused him to whack her on the head with the skillet. Ultimately, they both went to the hospital.

We'd like to say that it happened in New Jersey, but it was Romania, where they really know how to start the day.

"Acting is so outrageous, especially when you think, This is my life; I'm getting paid to have sex with a guy in a thong!"
—James King

EMO ICON

Arizona emo rockers Jimmy Eat World have finally nabbed a headline gig. We grilled lead singer Jim Adkins on their newfound recognition.

You played before a sold-out hometown crowd in Arizona. What were the worst band names you used in high school?

Oh, God. Corn Bread and Sideburn

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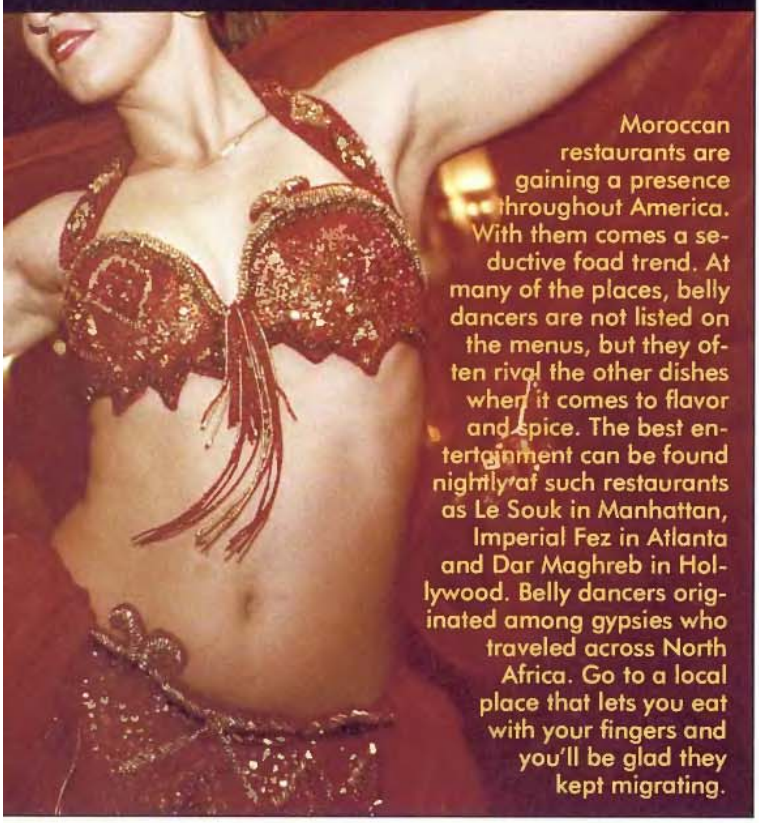
EATING OUT



Moroccan restaurants are gaining a presence throughout America. With them comes a seductive foad trend. At many of the places, belly dancers are not listed on the menus, but they often rival the other dishes when it comes to flavor and spice. The best entertainment can be found nightly at such restaurants as Le Souk in Manhattan, Imperial Fez in Atlanta and Dar Maghreb in Hollywood. Belly dancers originated among gypsies who traveled across North Africa. Go to a local place that lets you eat with your fingers and you'll be glad they kept migrating.

Circus. Rick Burch and Tom Linton were in those bands.

The Middle, your first video, featured a football field's worth of teenagers partying in their underwear. Was that a ploy to look at scantily clad young girls?

It was nice. It actually made working tolerable.

You played at Tom DeLonge of Blink-182's wedding. What are a rock star's nuptials like?

It was strange. We wore tuxes and played requests. We weren't the main band. We made a cameo. There was an open bar, and the next morning was quite painful.

What do you demand in your backstage dressing room?

We're pretty mellow about it. A lot of vodka and mixers. And every once in a while, a bottle of Maker's Mark. I just asked for some of those fizzy vitamin powder packets. Nothing crazy, like a shitload of organic nonfat stuff. I heard that Janet Jackson demands a brand-new toilet seat backstage and that she has to witness it being installed. Maybe this tour we'll demand retired astronauts backstage, just hanging around.

Have you run into any wild groupies?

Our crew is indulging more than we are. It might sound kind of sad, but after a show, all I want to do is shower and go to bed. Some fans hold up underwear that says "Jimmy—Eat My World!" But nothing that we do holds a candle to the Crue or Van Halen.

"I guess when people talk about religion they think about nuns. But it's possible to believe in God and live your life right and still be sexy."
—Beyoncé Knowles

ACADEMIC FATHEADS

Fries, damn fries and statistics: Overweight girls get fewer dates. That's the obvious conclusion drawn by Cornell University professor John Cawley in his new statistical analysis, *Body Weight and the Dating and Sexual Behaviors of Young Adolescents*: "If two otherwise identical girls differed such that one was at the median and one was at the 95th percentile for weight in pounds, the heavier of the

WHY GIRLS SAY YES—REASON #25

Because confidence is sexy: "From the moment we met at the art gallery, he was decidedly unapologetic about finding me utterly fabulous and sexy. He wasn't cloying—just unashamed of being caught in my web, as he put it. He was attentive throughout the evening, bringing me drinks or stopping to chat as he ambled past the reception table. At the close of the evening, he came up to me and said, 'Where are we going to go for drinks?' Not arrogantly, but confidently. I liked that. So I went. We talked and laughed as we played getting to know you. As he excused himself for a bathroom break, he kissed me right on the lips. I liked that, too. He went after what he wanted. And what he wanted was me. That was the best move he could have made."—M.L., Hollywood, California

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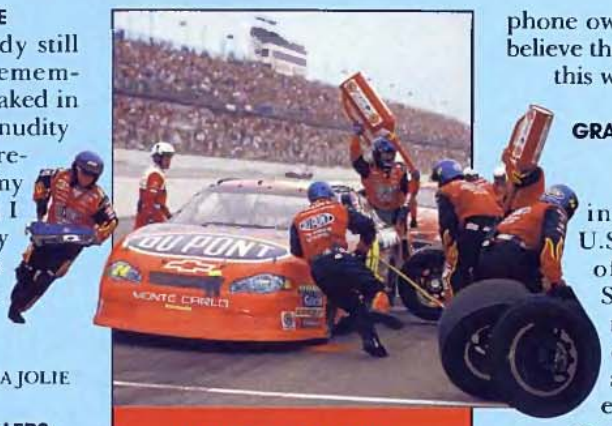
QUOTE

"Everybody still seems to remember me as naked in *Gia*, but my nudity in *Gia* was really just of my breasts. And I don't see my breasts as being that fucking stunning."

—ANGELINA JOLIE



FACT OF THE MONTH

It takes a seven-person crew 20 seconds to complete a Nascar pit stop, changing four tires, refueling and making minor adjustments.

CEREAL KILLERS

In a national survey, percentage of Americans who say they eat breakfast cereal as a dinner entree: 27. Percentage of Americans who say they eat it as a snack: 68. Percentage of Americans who eat it as a snack without milk: 35.

STYX RIVER CRUISE

According to the Center for the Advancement of Health, percentage increase in the chances of dying from a heart attack in people who skip annual vacations: 32.

TEED UP

Average number of wooden tees used per day by U.S. golfers: 6.8 million. Length of time it takes for a wooden tee to disintegrate on a golf course: 3 years. Amount of time it takes for a newly developed corn-resin tee to disintegrate: 1 year. Average life of a wooden tee: 4 drives. Average life of a resin tee: 10 drives.

NOSE CANDY

According to researchers at San Francisco State University, percentage of heterosexual women using pheromone-laced perfume who reported an increase in attention paid them by men: 74. Percentage of women with a placebo-laced perfume who reported an increase: 23.

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW? BAD

According to a nationwide survey by Public Agenda, percentage of people who say they are often subjected to loud and annoying cell-phone conversations: 49. Percentage of cell-phone owners who believe they behave this way: 17.

GRAY PRISON BLUES

According to the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, number of state and federal prison inmates age 55 and over in 1979: 6500. The number in 2000: 44,000. The annual cost, according to the National Criminal Justice Commission, of maintaining an older inmate: $69,000. Of maintaining a younger inmate: $22,000.

THE SHIPPING NEWS

In a study at Michigan State University of more than 100 packages from various online retailers, ratio of size of box to size of item in it: 16 to 1. Ratio of box space to item size actually needed to pack items safely: 2 to 1.

FLEE CIRCUS

Of drivers who flee police, percentage who are sought by police for only a misdemeanor: 60. Rank of speeding among misdemeanor infractions leading to a chase: One.

EXIT POLE

Percentage of Americans who say they would be comfortable with a female president: 76. Percentage who believe their neighbors would be: 50.

PERSONAL DEPARTMENT

Percentage of people who say they work in an environment where physical violence has occurred because of job stress: 10. Percentage who say that they have been driven to tears by workplace stress: 23.

TREE HUGGERS

According to *Road and Track*, odds that an American driver will hit a tree: 1 in 95. Odds the driver will be male: 9 in 10.

—BETTY SCHAAL

two would be 52 percent less likely to have ever dated and 39 percent less likely to have dated at least once a month in the past year."

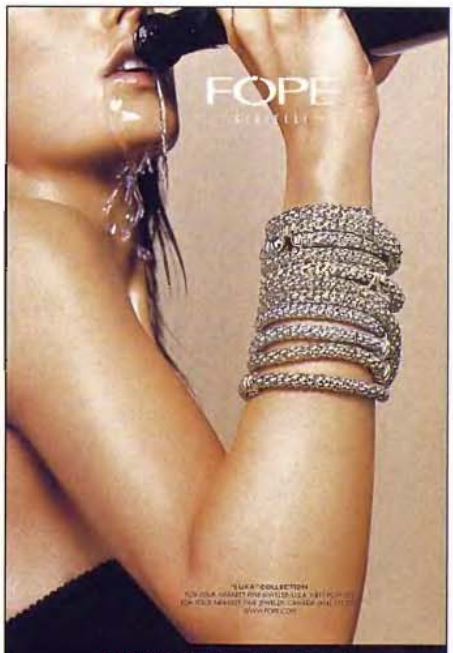
WHITE WHINE

The wine police may be coming to an art gallery near you. It happened in Santa Fe last year, then in Anchorage in January and recently in Washington. The D.C. Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration sent notice to 155 galleries in May warning they could "face criminal penalties" for serving alcohol without a license at openings. Gallery owners reeled off long lists of objections to this outrage: that wine at openings is a worldwide tradition, that galleries are private properties hosting invited guests, that wine is part of art culture's atmosphere and that cops should be busting criminals, not galleries. But they seem to have left off the most important point: A ton of art would never be sold if art patrons weren't feeling warm and fuzzy.

THE TIP SHEET

The Hog burger: Harley-Davidson has a new $5000 gas barbecue grill, available at the Ohio retail store Frontgate, that brands your meat with the Harley logo.

Splosher parties: San Francisco food orgies where fetishists and sensualists gather to writhe, wallow and slither together



DRIBBLEPUSS

We were minding our own, flipping through *Town and Country*, when we saw this od for Fope jewelry. At first, we didn't get it. And then we remembered that old joke—here's whot she does when she wants to get pregnont, here's what she does when she wants jewelry. We suspect that this womon con get pretty much whotever she wants.

More Yucks. Less Bucks.

Have a good laugh with these specially priced DVDs.

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nude or semi in obscene quantities of soup, syrup, cream, ketchup, pastries and pie fillings. Finger-licking good.

Don Quixote: According to a worldwide poll of 100 marquee authors, including John Irving, John le Carré, Salman Rushdie and Norman Mailer, the best work of fiction ever written.

How to Lose Friends and Alienate People (De Capo) by Toby Young: It's no *Don Quixote*, but Young—a sometime PLAYBOY contributor—does manage to prick a few egos in his behind-the-scenes take on life at *Vanity Fair*.

Doom service: The Eldan Hotel in Jerusalem is offering its guests (mostly foreign journalists and UN personnel) "survival ensemble" packages of bulletproof vests and helmets for $100 a week.

HARD CASES

Hansaware's hard wallets and cigarette cases are adorned with pulp fiction–style illustrations. They are available in a variety of styles, like Quickie (above), or even a plain, nickel-plated Playboy Rabbit Head. They come in two sizes—filtered and 100mm. Or you can stash cards and cash instead, along with a few smokes for chance encounters with nubile nicotine fiends.

FLY CASTING

Sean Combs has announced that when his film biography is made, he'd like to see Brad Pitt in the title role. It's not the first name that came to our mind, either, but Combs said, "He's such an extraordinary actor, I think he could pull it off. He would just have to get a deep tan. Put a scoop of butter on his behind and drop him off in St. Tropez for a month."

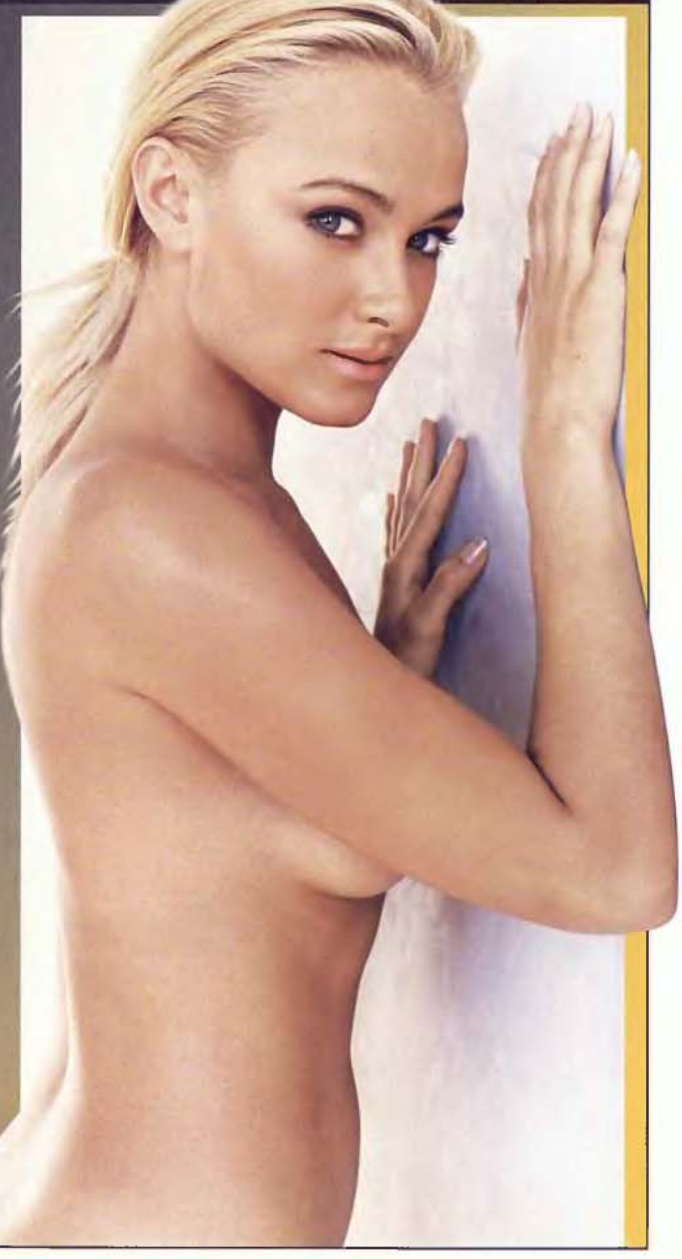
BIG RICKY

As a kid, Ricky Jay used to come into New York City from his home in New Jersey and wander Broadway to watch the weird and the crooked work the avenue—the Stem, as it was once known. "I admired their skills," he says of the pickpockets, card cons, Murphy men, spiritualists, cheaters and other low-lifes who ran their games on the street of schemes. After 50 years of study and practice in the shady arts, he has mounted a one-man show called *Ricky Jay on the Stem*. It's a follow-up to his last one-man show, a tour de force of card manipulation, *Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants*. This time, he takes his audience on a ramble down the street and demonstrates his historical knowledge of the many hustles he admired as a boy. "I'm like a tour guide on a visual panorama of what the street was like," Jay says.

"I got a lot of, 'This bloody bitch—she only got the job because of what she looks like.'" —Kelly Brook

"I demonstrate the techniques of pickpockets and spiritualists" (audience members are amazed by the disappearance of their valuables) "and I make stops at various places. There's a vignette that is actually a flea circus from Hubert's Museum on Times Square, along with Sealo the seal-finned boy. There's also a guy who has musical glasses. The show is about the cleverness of the con up against the gullibility and greed of the mark—the sharps and the flats." This show, as was his last, is directed by David Mamet (who has cast Jay as a droll grifter in most of his movies). *Ricky Jay on the Stem* had an extended run in New York early this summer and is set to tour the country.

BABE OF THE MONTH



JENNIFER O'DELL is out of this world. She plays Veronica, an untamed jungle girl, on TV's *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World*. Her character is stranded on a plateau high above the Amazon where dinosaurs rule, lost civilizations flourish and the laws of nature intermingle with the supernatural. Before she kicked dino and trogladyte butt, the 27-year-old fitness expert and actress got her break on shows like *Silk Stalkings* and *The Profiler* and had a recurring role on *Beverly Hills 90210*. Now she's crossing over into feature films such as *Molly*, *Wise Guy* and *Point Doom*. Most appealing to casual fans is her ability to do many of her own stunts—all while expertly filling out a loincloth every week. She's all woman. Hear her roar.

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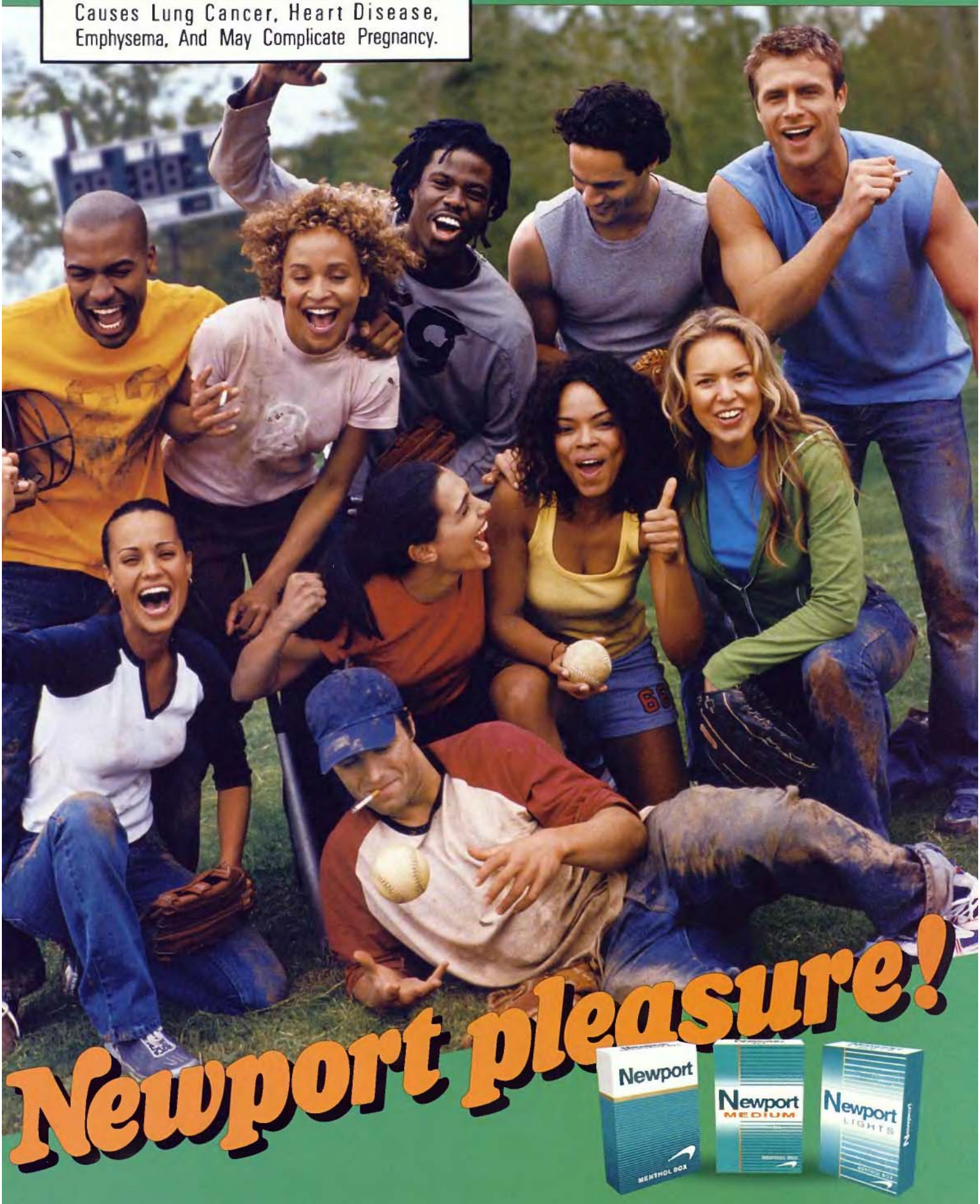

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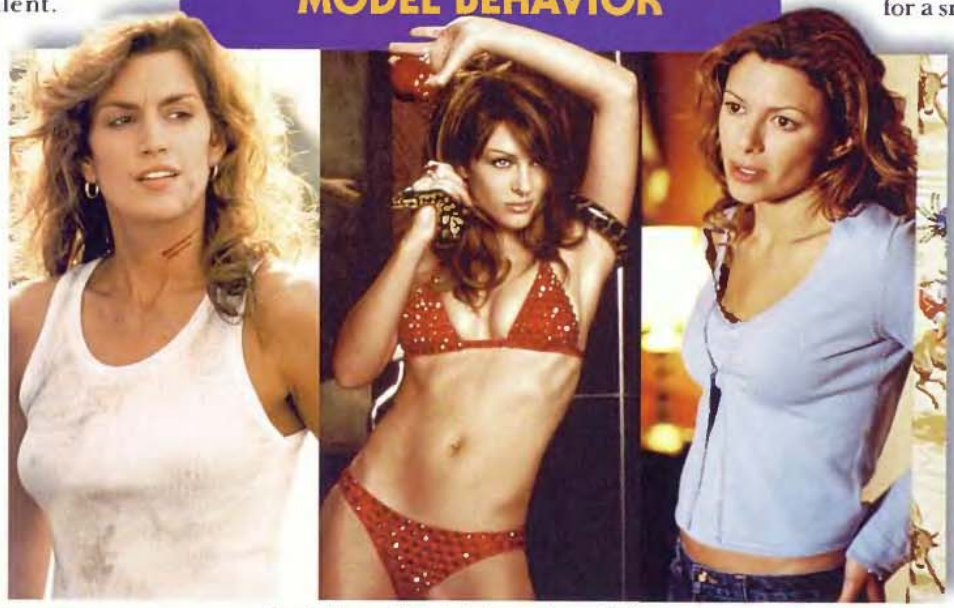
By LEONARD MALTIN

MODEL BEHAVIOR

MOVIEMAKERS, like moviegoers, have always been suckers for a pretty face. That's why producers and talent scouts often turn to fashion models for raw talent. Marsha Hunt in the Thirties, Jinx Falkenburg in the Forties, Suzy Parker in the Fifties, Cybill Shepherd, Lauren Hutton, Elle Macpherson and beyond—the never-ending search for new faces (and figures) focuses on runways and magazine covers.

Elizabeth Hurley, who stars in *Serving Sara* with Matthew Perry, maintains a dual career as an actress and official face of Estée Lauder in magazine ads and TV commercials. Like most of her colleagues, she's better known for being beautiful than for her acting chops. But Hurley has outsmarted wise-guy pundits by taking the producer's reins on more than one film, including some in which she hasn't appeared. She has also proved, in films like *Bedazzled*, that she has a sense of humor about her sexy image.

Kari Wuhrer, who shares screen time with some creepy crawlers in *Eight Legged Freaks*, started modeling in her teens. She attracted attention on MTV, but few of her fans know she also studied acting with the revered Uta Hagen and attended the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London.



Cindy, Liz and Kari: Actors after a fashion.

Some supermodels who try changing careers suffer public embarrassment. Cindy Crawford was talked into a costarring part in *Fair Game*, which caused most observers to write her off as a potential movie star. But last year she gave a good performance as a New York career woman in Linda Yellen's indie film *The Simian Line*, and proved that anyone who's got a good part for a smart, sexy woman in her mid-30s ought to check her out. (Crawford also appears buck naked in a bubble bath scene in the film.)

Elle Macpherson has shown a flair for acting, doing light comedy on TV's *Friends* and accumulating credits such as *Sirens*, *If Lucy Fell*, and *The Edge*.

Models such as Macpherson and Crawford have had to work twice as hard to earn our respect as actresses and prove that they're more than just pretty faces. That makes their achievements even more admirable.

CURRENT FILMS

Jennifer Aniston scores a bull's-eye in one of the best films of the year, ***The Good Girl.*** Director Miguel Arteta and actor Mike White, who last collaborated on

HOLLYWOOD GOES DIGITAL

Only a fraction of the millions of fans who have seen the newest episode of *Star Wars* are aware that what they saw was not created on film. In about 60 theaters across the U.S. and Canada, it wasn't even projected on motion picture film.

Digital filmmaking, and to a lesser degree digital projection, is a reality, though not everyone has been as eager to embrace the new technology as George Lucas. With an unlimited budget and a make-believe world to paint on-camera, his work shows off the medium at its best. Steven Soderbergh told me he enjoyed making his latest film, *Full Frontal*, on digital video but believes it will be some time before film is ready to be replaced as the capture medium for moviemakers. The results simply don't look as good after being blown up to big-screen size. One company, InDigEnt (Independent Digital Entertainment), was created to take advantage of new possibilities. *Tadpole* is its latest release. InDigEnt honcho Gary Winick admits the visual quality is still lacking, but says that making a movie in 10 days, on location, with a camera that runs for 40 minutes on a $10 tape, is incredibly freeing—for him and his actors.

Soderbergh: *Full Frontal* video.

"There's an intimacy with the actors, and if the story is right for the medium, it really comes across," he explains. "The idea that the camera now is this little plastic object and there's a crew of 10 as opposed to 50—I think the focus goes back to the acting. Less technical stuff in terms of the amount of light, focus marks and all of that, frees up the actor." That's why Sigourney Weaver was attracted to his film, and why others, including Ethan Hawke and Eric Bogosian, have made films for InDigEnt.

"I link it to the way Charlie Chaplin used to make films, to be able to rework scenes and come up with new things while you're shooting, and then rework even when you're editing. It's an unbelievable advantage for a director."

But a digital camera is still just a tool, and it can't make a bad script look good. The future of movies belongs to the storytellers, not the techies, and if digital video helps them do their job, we all benefit.

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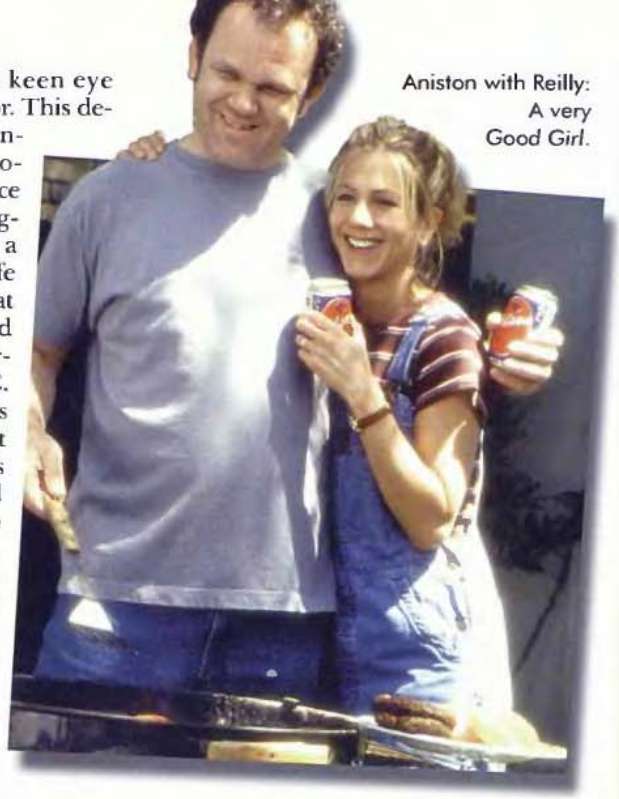
Chuck and Buck, each have a keen eye and a sharp, sly sense of humor. This deceptively simple, often melancholy film examines the emotions trapped under the surface of ordinariness in a working-class setting. Aniston plays a woman who, at 30, feels her life has hit a dead end. She works at a small-town discount store and goes through the paces of marriage with a husband (John C. Reilly) whose only interest is getting high with his best friend. It's no wonder she's intrigued by a dark-spirited loner (Jake Gyllenhaal) who comes to work at the store. Their friendship becomes sexual before she can stop to think about the consequences. That a story as original and adult as *The Good Girl* can still be made—and manage to attract talented actors—gives me hope for the future of American film.



Aniston with Reilly: A very Good Girl.

Another indie film that's bucking the big boys at the multiplex this summer is ***Skins,*** a deeply moving portrait of two brothers in turmoil. Graham Greene and Eric Schweig give rich, rounded performances as Lakota Indians who have taken different paths: Schweig is a cop, patrolling the dirt-poor community in which he grew up, while Greene, a Vietnam vet, has become a hopeless drunk. Screenwriter Jennifer Lyne, who adapted Adrian Louis' novel, and director Chris Eyre (*Smoke Signals*) have wisely put drama first and propaganda second in telling their story, which is set in one of America's poorest areas, in the shadow of Mount Rushmore.

Tadpole is an even smaller-scale movie, though it boasts such high-profile stars as Sigourney Weaver, Bebe Neuwirth and John Ritter. Clearly, these actors were attracted to Heather McGowan and Niels Mueller's clever script about a 15-year-old New York preppie (Aaron Stanford) who deems girls his age to be too immature and develops a crush on his worldly stepmother. Smart, funny and sweet, *Tadpole* is a satisfying antidote to the recent Hollywood crop of so-called comedies.

SCENE STEALER

MARGARET CHO. NOW ON-SCREEN: Her latest concert film, *Notorious C.H.O.* Her previous one-woman film, *I'm the One That I Want*, is now on video and DVD. **WHY DO YOU LIKE MAKING CONCERT FILMS?** "It's a way to elevate what I do beyond the outlets there are for comedy, to make my product a higher-end deal. It's a different experience." **WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE OTHER KINDS OF MOVIES?** "I've written a film I'd like to shoot later this year. It's a broad comedy about what would have happened if I had never done comedy and had stayed at home until now." **IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY MOVIE ROLE, WHAT WOULD YOU PICK?** "I would like to play Rosa Parks, but I don't think people would buy it. I would love to do any kind of huge costume drama; it would be exciting to be in a corset for three or four months. It'd be great to break into the Merchant–Ivory world—those are my favorite movies." **WHO MAKES YOU LAUGH?** "I like what Christopher Guest has done in his films, like *Best in Show* and *Waiting for Guffman*. I love Sandra Bernhard, Rosie O'Donnell as stand-ups, and Chris Rock. He's amazing. **CAN YOU SEE YOURSELF STARRING IN A BUDDY MOVIE?** "I would love to do something with Jackie Chan." **AND WOULD YOU GET PHYSICAL?** "I actually did a John Woo film, *Face/Off*. I have a minor role in it, but I did stunts, and my stunt double was a perfect, muscular version of me. I loved that."

SCORE CARD

capsule close-ups of current films by leonard maltin

The Bourne Identity Matt Damon is impressive as the amnesiac CIA operative who has to run for his life—with a sympathetic stranger (Franka Potente) in tow. Indie filmmaker Doug Liman scores with this taut, exciting spy thriller. ¥¥¥½

Cherish Robin Tunney gives a compelling performance in this fresh suspense movie from writer-director Finn Taylor about a woman confined to her apartment and her police supervisor (Tim Blake Nelson), who becomes attracted to her. ¥¥¥

The Good Girl Jennifer Aniston does herself proud in this moody, observant slice of life about a working-class woman who pursues a crazy dream—and pays the price. Jake Gyllenhaal and John C. Reilly co-star in one of the best films of the year. ¥¥¥½

Harvard Man Diehard indie filmmaker James Toback takes us on an LSD trip, along with his Harvard hero (Adrian Grenier), in this yarn about a man who's sleeping with his college professor and the daughter of a local mafioso. Sarah Michelle Gellar and Joey Lauren Adams co-star. ¥¥

The Last Kiss A passionate Italian movie (if that isn't redundant) about a man, about to turn 30, who feels no passion in his life—even for his fiancée—while his friends plan to flee their humdrum existence on a grand adventure. ¥¥¥

Skins Chris Eyre, who directed *Smoke Signals*, returns to Native American turf for this emotional story of two brothers whose divergent paths in life can't break the bond that ties them. Graham Greene and Eric Schweig give superlative performances. ¥¥¥½

Sunshine State Director John Sayles proves again he is one of the shining lights of American cinema in this eloquent saga set on Plantation Island in Florida, where progress is forging change for rich and poor, black and white. Edie Falco, Timothy Hutton, Mary Steenburgen and Angela Bassett head the cast. ¥¥¥

Tadpole Sigourney Weaver stirs forbidden feelings in her stepson. John Ritter, Bebe Neuwirth and newcomer Aaron Stanford are excellent in this small-scale but satisfying comedy. ¥¥¥

¥¥¥¥ Don't miss ¥¥ Worth a look
¥¥¥ Good show ¥ Forget it

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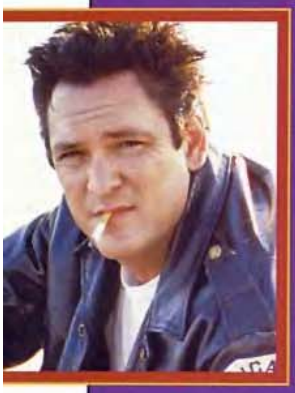
GUEST SHOT

To celebrate the DVD release of 1992's *Reservoir Dogs* and **Michael Madsen's** chilling performance as Mr. Blonde, we asked the actor to cite his favorite movies. "I have to start out with *One-Eyed Jacks*, a Western originally directed by Stanley Kubrick and then taken over by Marlon Brando. Also, *Lonely Are the Brave*, the Kirk Douglas picture that introduced Gena Rowlands to the world. I like *Paris, Texas* very much—it features the quintessential Harry Dean Stanton performance. I like *High Sierra*, with Humphrey Bogart and Ida Lupino, and *Heaven Knows, Mr. Allison*. I love *The Sound of Music*, and I still bawl at the end of *Shane*. I've been trying to get my six-year-old to watch it, but he's not interested. Everyone forgets that I was a Disney dad, playing the father in *Free Willy*—the antithesis of Mr. Blonde—and that's the only one of my movies I let my kids watch." —JOHN REZEK



CINEMA REDUX, OR COME AGAIN?

Let's see if we have this right: This year, Jackie Chan put on a suit and assumed hyperactive superpowers in ***The Tuxedo***. Didn't Jim Carrey do that in 1994 with a different item of apparel in ***The Mask***? Why are we surprised? Every generation has its own version of the same movie; here's proof there is little new under the cinematic sun:

The story: A nonconformist in a mental institution starts an uprising among lovable patients by promising escape. That's right, ***K-PAX*** (2001) is ***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*** (1975), with a liberal dusting of ***Starman*** (1984) for good measure.

The story: A gaggle of horny high school students gives new meaning to "first period." Parents everywhere are offended; teen audiences laugh their asses off. ***American Pie*** (1999) is just ***Porky's*** (1981) with fruit-filled baked goods instead of a hole in the girls' rest room wall.

The story: A nebbishy young man with the hots for a hottie who doesn't know he's alive uses his secret superpowers to fight criminals and otherworldly monsters; the chick falls for the costumed crusader after a seductive flight around the city. ***Spider-Man*** is this year's ***Superman*** (1978).

The story: A young man with mystical leanings and elves as companions must defeat the Ultimate Evil, including a fiery demon from the underworld, to save the world as we know it. We've smelled this cheese before: ***The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*** (2001) is Tom Cruise's ***Legend*** (1985), with more special effects.

The story: A degenerate neighborhood man down on his luck accepts the challenge of coaching a Little League baseball team because it pays for his beer. Somehow the kids rally around the loser and become winners. Keanu Reeves in ***Hardball*** (2001) is Walter Matthau in ***The Bad News Bears*** (1976).

The story: A rescue operation to recover downed American fighter(s) behind enemy lines involves lots of bullets and bombs. Hollywood can't even wait a generation before repeating itself: ***Behind Enemy Lines*** debuted on November 17, 2001; ***Black Hawk Down*** a month later, on December 18. What's new? ***BAT*21*** did it in 1988. —BUZZ MCCLAIN

GUILTY PLEASURE

In America, kids used to dress up like the Lone Ranger and wreak havoc on the forces of evil in their backyards. In Japan, kids dress up like Zatoichi, the Blind Swordsman—a sort of Nipponese Dirty Harry. Home Vision Entertainment has rolled out 17 episodes of this cult classic on DVD with restored image and sound. It's infectious storytelling, fun action and impressive blade work. —J.R.

DISC ALERT

You didn't have to be Dionne Warwick to see this one coming: ***The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*** will be available November 12 in a five-disc New Line Platinum Series package for $80; the outstanding two-disc edition is currently on sale for $30. With all those characters, effects and the staggering lore lode from J.R.R. Tolkien's *Ring* trilogy to draw on, *Rings* overkill was inevitable. Maybe it's not such a bad thing, though, given that director Peter Jackson's take on the tale is as strong creatively as it's been commercially. So what (beyond the movie) will you get for your eight crisp Hamiltons? Another 30 minutes, for starters; and while early rumors suggested it would be an R-rated director's cut, Jackson's fleshing out evidently didn't push the MPAA's buttons beyond the theatrical cut's PG-13. (Does anyone really need to see naked Hobbits?) The extended cut stretches the movie to two discs, while another two discs offer feature material. Illustrations from faeries artist Alan Lee adorn the package, which includes trading cards and figurines, plus a new version of the *National Geographic Beyond the Movie* special, with photographs and footage. If you can live without the *National Geographic* disc and the little dolls, or "Argonath polystone figures," the director's cut can also be had in a four-disc set for about half the price ($40), which includes the two discs of extras. —GREGORY P. FAGAN

video mood meter

MOOD	MOVIE
ACTION	***We Were Soldiers*** (true story of the first U.S. battle in Vietnam makes for harrowing history; Mel Gibson's the C.O.), ***John Q.*** (fake story of dad who takes hostages to get his son a new heart makes for juicy HMO bashing; Denzel rules).
SLEEPER	***Birthday Girl*** (Ben Chaplin's mail-order bride brings evil comrades from Russia; Nicole Kidman sizzles as the saucy schemer), ***Storytelling*** (Todd Solondz uses two tales with wicked twists to show how stories mutate wildly once told).
IMPORT	***Brotherhood of the Wolf*** (your basic French martial arts monster period epic, avec flesh; why wasn't this huge?), ***Taboo*** (androgynous warrior's entry into a Kyoto samurai school sends everything to homoerotic hell; a little talky).
DRAMA	***The Rookie*** (Dennis Quaid takes a middle-aged stab at the Bigs; cornball baseball flick pushes the right buttons); ***Dragonfly*** (widowed physician in a funk Kevin Costner thinks his dead wife's calling; works better on small screen).

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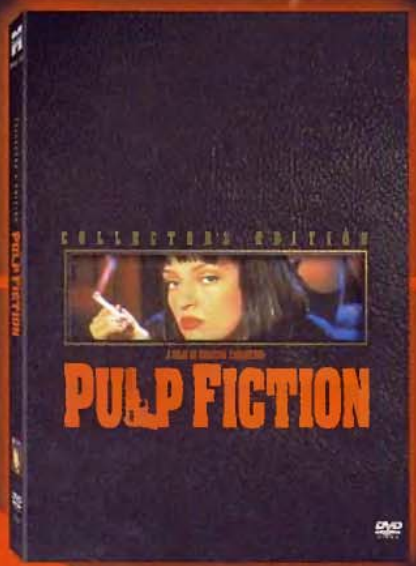

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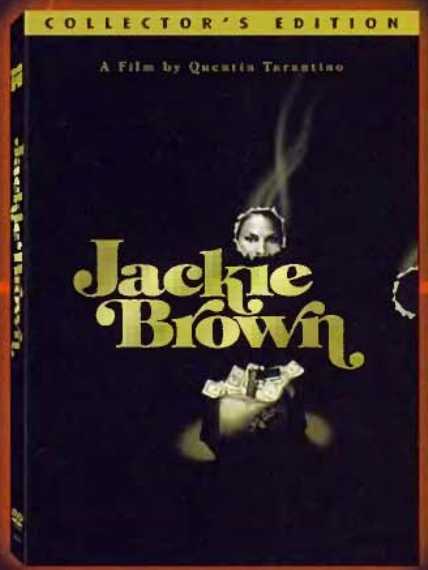

BONUS MATERIAL
Includes

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- Deleted And Alternate Scenes
- Theatrical Trailers • *Jackie Brown* On MTV
- Siskel & Ebert *Jackie Brown* Review
- Pam Grier And Robert Forster Movie Trailers
- TV Spots • Still Galleries
- Review & Articles • DVD-ROM Features
- And More!

Bonus Material Not Rated. R

SOUNDTRACK CDs

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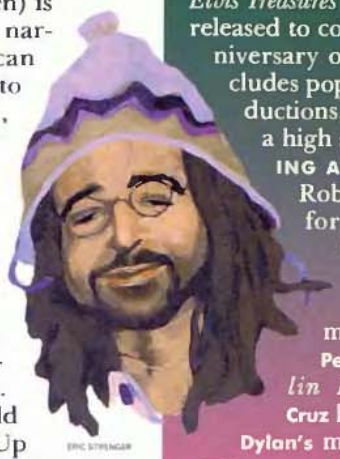
music

NINE YEARS after Counting Crows' *August and Everything After*, one of music's best-selling debuts, front man Adam Duritz is less melancholy and more lyrically eloquent. ***Hard Candy*** (Geffen) is another batch of emotional narratives, but this time you can ditch the Kleenex. Try not to grin during *American Girls*, with kicky backup vocals by Sheryl Crow. —ALISON PRATO



With ***On a Wire*** (Vagrant), the Get Up Kids graduate from power-chord romantics to a band with a unique voice. The melodies are still as sweet, especially on *Overdue* and *Wish You Were Here*. Along with Jimmy Eat World and Promise Ring, the Get Up Kids are a signpost to rock's future. —JASON BUHRMESTER

It sounds embarrassing: Sixties' soul legend sings tunes written for him by the likes of Bob Dylan and Van Morrison. But Solomon Burke's ***Don't Give Up on Me*** (Fat Possum) is a surprise. Producer Joe Henry sets up a loose Memphis groove, allowing plenty of room for Burke's great 66-year-old voice. The songs aren't bad, either. —LEOPOLD FROEHLICH

Hi-hats punctuate the dark, throbbing synth washes on ***First Album*** (Emperor Norton) by Miss Kittin and the Hacker. Miss K is a French-accented fembot whose message isn't encrypted—it's sex, sex, sex. Call it electro-porn noir. —TIM MOHR

On ***Plastic Fang*** (Matador), the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion makes gentrified Southern rock—adding hand claps, funky drumming, theremin and a sense of irony to a classic blues-rock base. But even if you don't have a taste for postmodern parody, the Blues Explosion rocks convincingly, and well. The best song here is *Hold On*, guest-starring Dr. John and P-Funk keyboardist Bernie Worrell. —ANAHEED ALANI

fast tracks

LONG LIVE THE KING DEPARTMENT: *The Elvis Treasures* by **Robert Gordon** is being released to coincide with the 25th anniversary of Presley's death. It includes pop-up memorabilia reproductions, such as his signature on a high school library card. **REELING AND ROCKING:** In other Robert Gordon news, look for his **Muddy Waters** documentary on PBS. . . . **Jennifer Lopez** will play Carmen in a movie scripted by **Craig Pearce**, who co-wrote *Moulin Rouge*. . . . **Penélope Cruz** has joined the cast of **Bob Dylan's** movie *Masked and Anonymous*. . . . It looks as though **Rohan Marley** and **Lauryn Hill** will play **Bob** and **Rita Marley** in a biopic. . . . If you're looking for a laugh, buy **Russ Forster's** documentary *Tributary*. He traveled the country recording and interviewing tribute bands. (For more information, write to russelforster@hotmail.com.) **NEWSBREAKS:** There will be two **John Lee Hooker** tribute albums—one featuring British musicians, the other Americans. . . . **Rick James** is a busy man these days. He is writing a musical called *Alice in Ghettoland*, trying to get his autobiography made into a film and is producing a new singer, **Rain.** Says James, "We created her because I want to get rid of **Britney Spears.**" —BARBARA NELLIS

Seelenluft makes intelligent pop. ***Out of the Woods*** (Klein) relies on the laptop, but the live instruments and killer vocals carry the day. It's top-notch LA music, filtered through a Swiss sensibility. —L.F.

The best punk rock has humor behind its recklessness. On Dillinger Four's ***Situationist Comedy*** (Fat Wreck Chords), the group recalls that attitude with a blitz of distortion and clever songs—*The Father, the Son and the Homosexual/Single Parent*, for one. —J.B.

Jazzanova's ***In Between*** (JCR) recombines jazz, hip-hop and Latin drums to create a new musical form. If you like Kruder and Dorfmeister, check this out.—L.F.

Finally, a tribute to Sixties songwriter Lee (*These Boots Are Made for Walking*) Hazlewood. On ***Total Lee*** (Astralwerks), Calexico, Saint Étienne and Kid Loco play his wistful tunes. —T.M.

Although Hot Hot Heat is inspired by New Wave, it's not a revival band. The new E.P. ***Knock Knock Knock*** (Sub Pop), is amazingly fresh. This record couldn't be more entertaining—it's forthright and catchy as hell. —A.A.

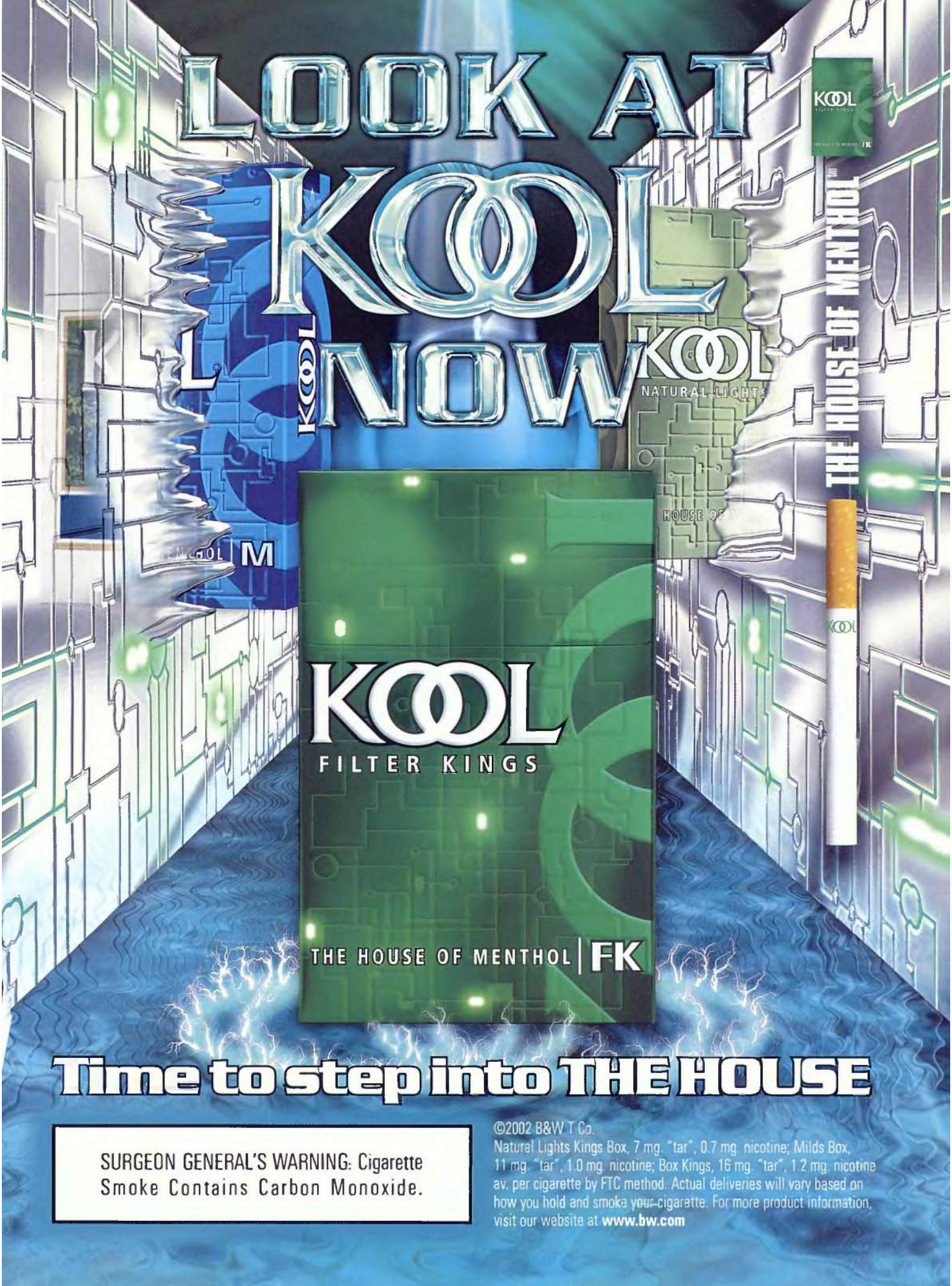
New Orleans was the center of the rock-and-roll universe after World War II, and producer Dave Bartholomew was right in the middle of it. ***The Big Beat of Dave Bartholomew,*** part of EMI's Crescent City Soul series, is R&B at its best. The four-CD set ***Gettin' Funky: The Birth of New Orleans R&B*** (Proper) fills out the scene with powerful recordings by Roy Brown and Professor Longhair. —L.F.

Ska-core masters the Mighty Mighty Bosstones subscribe to a foolproof formula—a jolly horn section, gruff vocals and a don't-give-a-rat's-ass mentality. ***A Jackknife to a Swan*** (Side One Dummy) doesn't disappoint. —A.P.

Shenanigans (Reprise) is a fast ride from Green Day's power-punk start to the stripped-down sound of their last studio CD. NOFX compiles B sides and out-of-print records on ***45 or 46 Songs*** (Fat Wreck Chords), a set that includes deserving originals and covers. —J.B.

ROCK METER

	Alani	Buhrmester	Froehlich	Mohr	Prato
Solomon Burke *Don't Give Up on Me*	8	7	8	9	7
Counting Crows *Hard Candy*	2	7	2	2	9
Get Up Kids *On a Wire*	5	9	3	3	5
Jon Spencer *Plastic Fang*	7	8	6	4	8
Miss Kittin *First Album*	4	5	5	9	4



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THE FIGHTING GETS INTENSE

The battle between Sony PlayStation2, Microsoft Xbox and Nintendo GameCube is moving from the living room to the online realm. The PS2 will be the first system online. This month, Sony will introduce its $40 Network Adapter, a plug-in module for the back of the PS2 that houses two jacks: one for dial-up modems and an Ethernet port for high-speed gaming. Gamers can use their existing Internet service providers or the bundled CD, which includes software for AOL and Earthlink. Sony's efforts will be on multiplayer gaming, but in the future users will be able to use the adapter to access web content, e-mail and instant messaging. Coinciding with the launch is **Socom: U.S. Navy Seals** (pictured bottom right), Sony's first Internet-ready action game. As elite Navy Seals, players dismantle terrorist infrastructures around the globe. The real fun of Socom is in the online cooperative or competitive modes, which support up to 16 players per match. Other online-ready games include Tony Hawk's ProSkater 3, Tribes: Aerial Assault (pictured at top right) and EverQuest Online Adventures. Watch for online initiatives from Microsoft and Nintendo to launch before the end of the year. Microsoft has announced that Xbox owners won't need an adapter for online play (it's built into the system), but they will need to purchase a $50 one-year subscription to Xbox Live that includes a voice-chat headset and ReVolt, an online racing game. —MARC SALTZMAN

LET'S ALL NAP

Even though the three-martini lunch and subsequent snooze have gone the way of the leisure suit, sleep researchers say an afternoon nap makes employees more alert and productive. Workers in cultures where afternoon naps are commonplace score better on stress tests than do Americans. However, there is an art to napping: Sleep too long and you could wake up more fatigued than before. That's because after 30 to 45 minutes of napping you enter deep sleep, which is essentially a physiological shutdown. NASA studies show that naps of up to 40 minutes are particularly helpful during long nighttime flights. In conjunction with research from NASA on pilot fatigue, the Jetlog 24x7 PowerNap ($50) was developed to rouse you before dreams begin. The PowerNapping Module fits in the back of the Handspring Visor PDA and includes a touch sensor. When it's naptime, you curl up with your thumb on your PDA and fall asleep. The PowerNapper monitors the body's muscle tension. Right before deep sleep occurs (or 40 minutes passes) an alarm sounds. When is the best time for a nap? According to researchers, it's between one and four in the afternoon. Napping after four may inhibit sleep later at night. —LAZLOW

NOAH WOODS

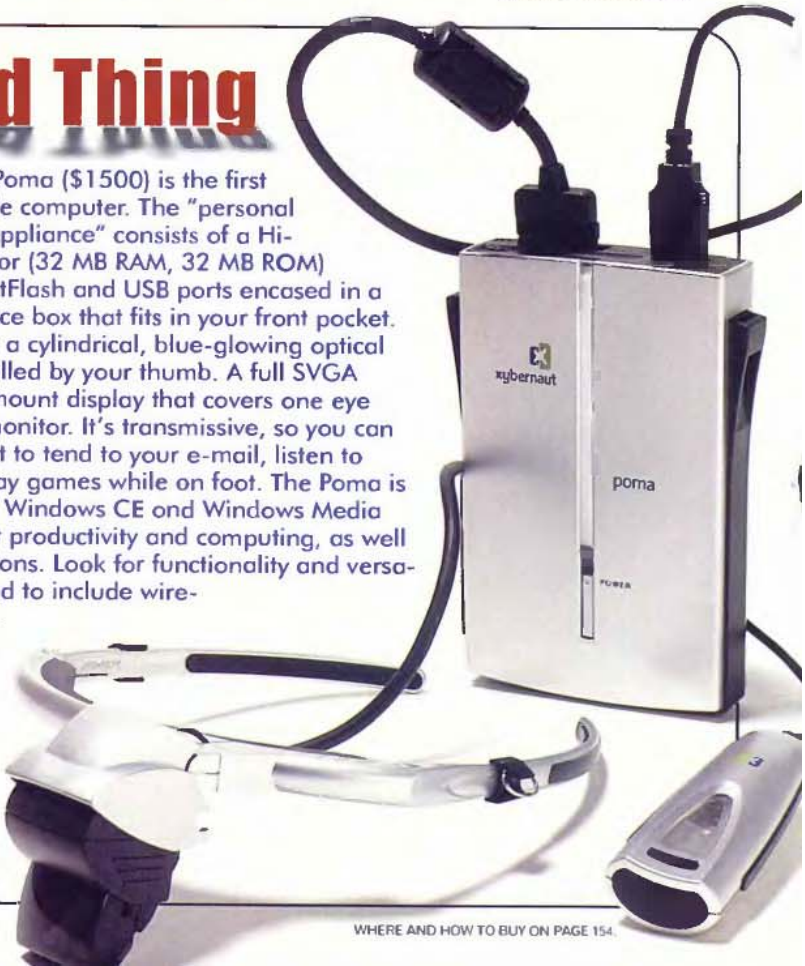
HANG UP ON PHONE TAG

Instant messaging has eliminated the problem of phone tag by allowing computer users to see who's online before typing a hello. Known as presence technology, the innovation may appear in cell phones, PDAs, pagers and other devices before the end of the year. If all goes as planned, you'll be able to see who's connected, where they are and whether they're in the mood to take a call. User-set preferences determine whether to route incoming calls to a cell phone or work phone and can be set to deliver personal information. Commuters, for example, may receive a call that alerts them to traffic problems and offers an alternate route by using global positioning system technology. As helpful as all this sounds, there are potential pitfalls. Currently, no single standard connects different IM networks from companies such as Yahoo, AOL and Microsoft. Far more alarming is the idea that stores will be able to call as you approach and beg you to come inside and spend money. To avoid this, users can set up privacy-control filters that provide time, date and content restrictions on incoming calls.

—JAMES OLIVER CURY

Wild Thing

Xybernaut's Poma ($1500) is the first truly wearable computer. The "personal multimedia appliance" consists of a Hitachi processor (32 MB RAM, 32 MB ROM) with CompactFlash and USB ports encased in a sleek 11-ounce box that fits in your front pocket. The mouse is a cylindrical, blue-glowing optical device controlled by your thumb. A full SVGA 1"x1" head-mount display that covers one eye serves as a monitor. It's transmissive, so you can see through it to tend to your e-mail, listen to music and play games while on foot. The Poma is bundled with Windows CE and Windows Media Player 6.4 for productivity and computing, as well as PDA functions. Look for functionality and versatility to expand to include wireless and two-way communication capabilities and such accessories as a one-gigobyte microdrive.—BUZZ MCCLAIN



WHERE AND HOW TO BUY ON PAGE 154

living online

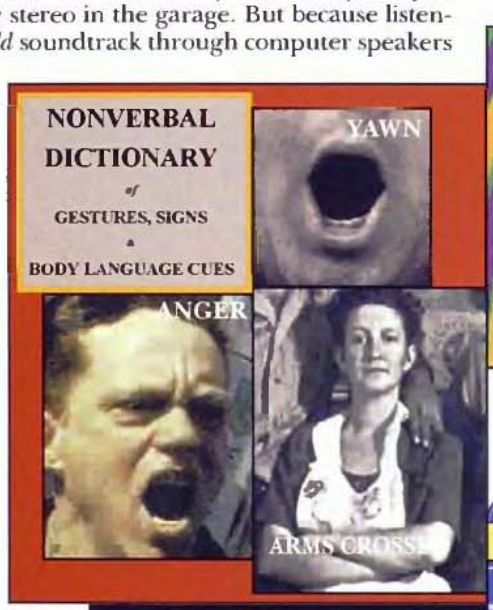
By MARK FRAUENFELDER

BODY LANGUAGE TRANSLATOR

There are plenty of ways to communicate without words, but I had no idea how rich body language was until I came across the *Nonverbal Dictionary* (**members.aol.com/nonverbal2/diction1.htm**), a compendium of ways people talk without opening their mouths. Examples range from the Adam's Apple Jump to the Zygomatic Smile and include the Broadside Display, an instinctual reaction to make yourself appear as large as possible when threatened. Fish, amphibians and many mammals use this tactic. I'm not sure about its effectiveness, however. It never worked on the bully in junior high.

SOUNDS GOOD

Most of the time I listen to music on my iPod or my computer. In fact, I put my stereo in the garage. But because listening to the *Ghost World* soundtrack through computer speakers is about as much fun as watching a movie through a cardboard tube, I started looking for a set of inexpensive peripheral speakers. I had heard good things about Bantam Interactive (**bantamusa.com**), so I went to their site and found the SPKR-05s, a pair of mini-tower speakers that look like gray Pringles cans. Because they were only $25, I spent another $15 for a set of headphones, the Pro-M5. They're the old-fashioned kind—plastic cups with foam around the lips—and they're perfect for wearing on a plane, since the earbuds that come with the iPod don't muffle the jet engines. I like being able to switch off the speakers when I need to take a phone call. And I'm considering buying another set of headphones—the last time I flew with my four-year-old daughter, she insisted on wearing mine the entire flight.



LET'S TAKE A DEAL

A friend was interested in buying a digital camera. He wasn't sure what he wanted but was hoping to find a three-megapixel Sony model for less than $350. We sat down in front of my computer and logged on to **dealtime.com**, a price-comparison service for everything from baby strollers to ocean cruises. The interface was nice and clean. I clicked on digital cameras, selected Sony and the appropriate price range, then hit the search button. In a couple of seconds, a long list appeared. My friend picked one out (the CyberShot DSC-P3) and I clicked the Compare Prices button, which displayed a list of 33 online stores selling the camera, along with their prices. The highest was $499.95 and the lowest was $329. We didn't go with the cheapest dealer, however, after reading the customer-written reviews. (There were 13 negative reviews and no positive ones.) Customers complained the store had shipped used merchandise, was late in shipping or charged for accessories that hadn't been ordered. The next-cheapest store had 58 positive reviews and 59 negatives, so we skipped it, too. We went with a store that charged $339, because it had seven positives and only one negative review. Fortunately, the camera arrived on time and in good condition. My advice: If you use DealTime, avoid retailers with a rating of less than 4.5 stars.

MACINTOSH'S MISSING MENUS

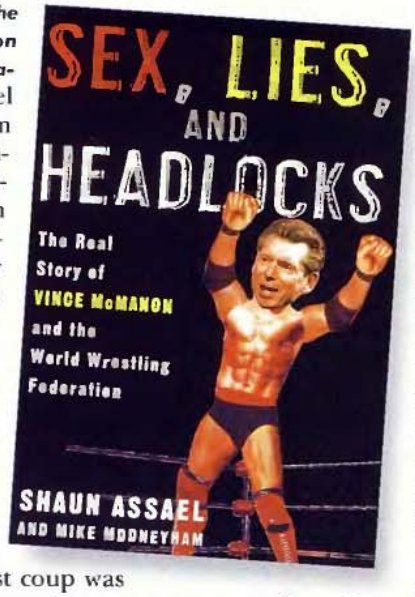
After I switched to the Mac OS X operating system, I started missing the old Apple menu at the left side of the screen. It had been an easy way to launch applications. And I wanted the old application switcher on the right side of the screen, too. The new OS X dock was designed to replace these missing menus, but it gets in the way, and if you put it in the "hidden" mode, it takes way too long to open. So I started looking for an add-on application that would bring back the two menus and found a couple of excellent ones. Fruitmenu (**unsanity.com/haxies/fruitmenu/**) is a $7 application that lets you customize the OS X blue Apple menu. I loaded it with my favorite applications and most-used folders. Fruitmenu also lets you assign hot keys to different menu items. Next I found a free replacement for the application switcher, called ASM (**asm.vercruesse.de**), that does everything the old switcher did, with a few bonus features, such as giving you the option to hide the windows of every application except the one you select. I use both ASM and Fruitmenu dozens of times a day.

QUICK HITS

Being left-handed shouldn't leave you empty-handed. Smart southpaws shop at **longislandlefty.com**. . . . Learn to flip your Zippo like a pro at **zippotricks.com**. . . . *The Spook* has stories from Ray Bradbury and Joyce Carol Oates. Download it from **thespook.com**.

You can contact Mark Frauenfelder by e-mail at livingonline @playboy.com.

MCMAHON MANIA


SEX, LIES, AND HEADLOCKS
The Real Story of VINCE McMAHON and the World Wrestling Federation
SHAUN ASSAEL AND MIKE MOONEYHAM

In ***Sex, Lies and Headlocks: The Real Story of Vince McMahon and the World Wrestling Federation*** (Crown), Shaun Assael and Mike Mooneyham form the perfect tag team to chronicle pro wrestling's improbable transformation from low-budget regional entertainment to billion-dollar spectacle. McMahon, the irrepressible marketing visionary, deserves the credit—or blame—for making it happen. But the picture painted here of the wrestling world (tinted with steroids and substance abuse, egomania, disloyalty and double crosses) isn't pretty. McMahon's first coup was hooking up with Cyndi Lauper to snare a young audience in the early days of MTV. Since then, the downhill spiral in taste has been mirrored by a corresponding rise in popularity. Given McMahon's predilection for parading himself before the cameras in self-parody, it's hard to see him or anyone as a victim. But the wrestlers come off as freak-show characters, distinguished from county-fair performers only by their six-figure incomes. Despite the devastating dropkicks and forearm smashes that are delivered by the authors, McMahon, as always, retains his standing as lord of the ring.—PAUL ENGLEMAN

BOY WONDER

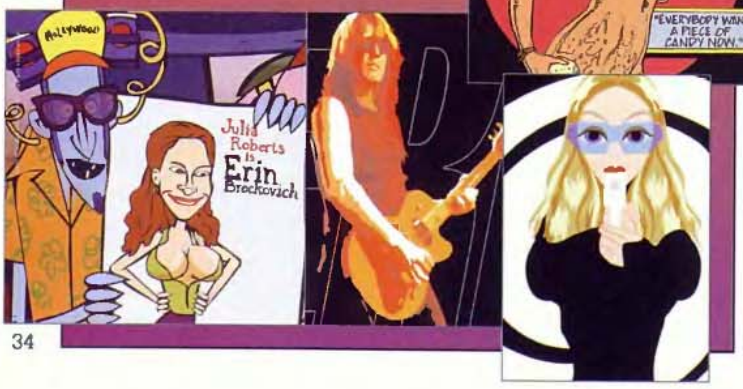
What did you accomplish by your late teens? Probably not as much as then-17-year-old Nick McDonell, whose debut novel ***Twelve*** (Grove) compelled Hunter S. Thompson to call him a "dangerous freak with very sharp teeth. I'm afraid he will do for his generation what I did for mine." *Twelve* follows the lives of affluent Manhattan preppies who like to fuck and get fucked up. White Mike is a modern-day Holden Caulfield—a quasi genius who'd rather sell marijuana than attend Harvard. His customers include a boy wrongly accused of murder, who must sit in jail because he can't remember his parents' European itinerary. A hot chick uses her feminine charms to talk a boy with absentee parents into hosting a New Year's party. Another girl's life turns to shit when she develops a taste for a fictional drug called 12, which seems like a mix of ecstasy, cocaine, LSD and roach killer. Toss in a boy with an Uzi and Park Avenue looks like urban blight. This book is an enthralling read about apathetic youth who have everything and nothing. This is a dramatic debut for McDonell, who has a brighter future than these scary teens.

—PATTY LAMBERTI

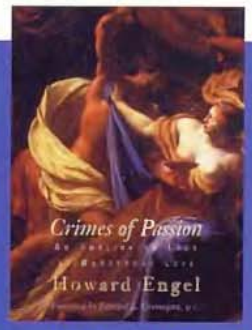
MAGNIFICENT OBSESSIONS

Flash Frames: A New Pop Culture (Watson-Guptill), by designer Laurie Dolphin and producer Stuart Shapiro, documents the work of 40 innovative animators using the computer application Flash to create their unique art and some of the hattest content on the Internet. Highlights include Marina Zurkow's mutant superheroine Braingirl, Bob Cesca's Nipple Man, Joe Cartoon's cult animotions and visuals from veterans Stan Lee (*Spider-Man, The X-Men*) and Russ Heath (*Men of War, Mad*). All flash, no trash.

—HELEN FRANGOULIS



KILLER LOVE



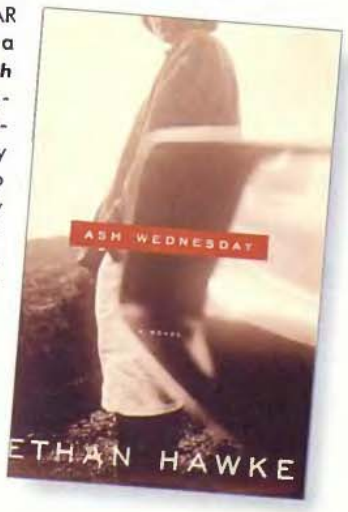
Scandal is sex education for the masses, a classroom without teachers, where whispers carry the lessons of the day. When lust leads to murder, the collective conscience kicks in. As Howard Engel shows in ***Crimes of Passion: An Unblinking Look at Murderous Love*** (Firefly), our fascination with infomous affairs is enduring. Engel recalls Yvonne Chevalier's crime of passion—she killed her war-hero husband over infidelity and was acquitted by a sympathetic jury. Engel wanders through a rogues' gallery of killers, from Ruth Ellis and Jean Harris (women scorned) to Ruth Snyder (the first woman electrocuted) to bladed beauties Lizzie Borden and Lorena Bobbitt. Love hurts.

—JAMES R. PETERSEN

SHOOTING STAR

Ethan Hawke is a fine actor, but he's a mediocre novelist. His second effort, ***Ash Wednesday*** (Knopf), tells the often-humorous tale of James Heartsock, a white-trash AWOL army recruit, and Christy Ann Walker, the love of his life, who wooed him by lifting up her skirt. Jimmy and Christy have a hurts-so-good relationship—the kind that might be dissected by Oprah's Dr. Phil—but when they hit the road in a tricked-out Chevy Nova and stumble into marriage and parenthood, they morph into a mature, loving, but ultimately flawed family. Not bad, if only the journey were not so predictable.

—ALISON PRATO



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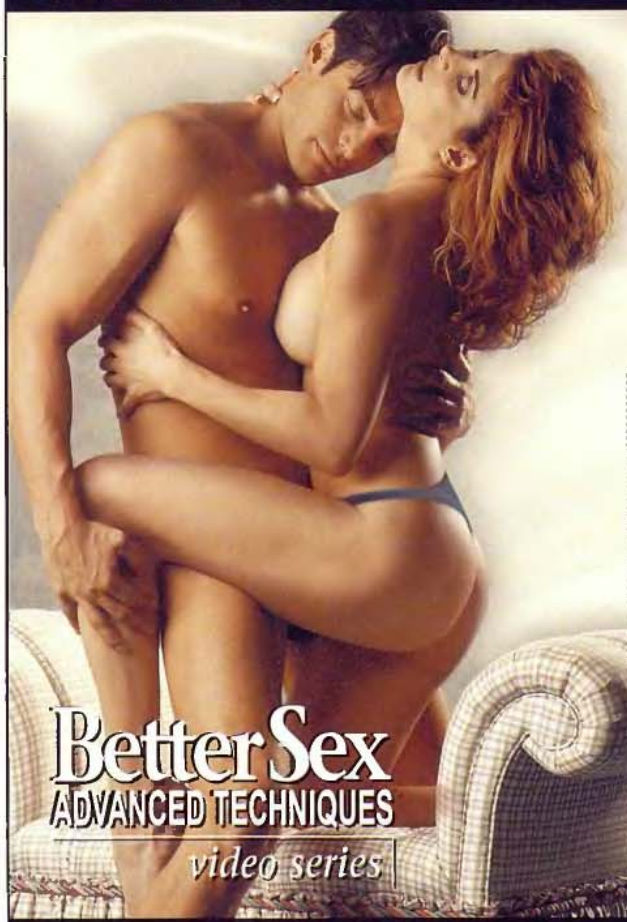

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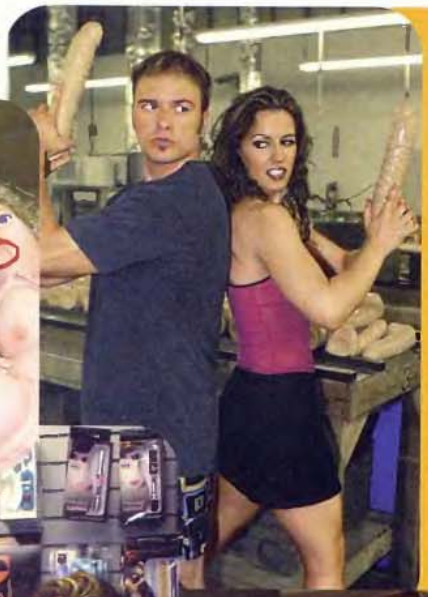
TOYS X US

Watching Topco Sales founder Marty Tucker walk past assembly lines of sex toys, rubber body parts and lubricants at his company's 175,000-square-foot facility in San Fernando, California is like observing a king assessing his empire. In 1973 the former aerospace scientist began to transform a modest business that produced novelty items and rubber snakes for a theme park into a company with almost 500 employees that creates innovative rubber toys of an adult variety. Most of his competitors import their sex toys from Asia, so if you have a blow-up doll or a dildo that says MADE IN THE USA, it probably originated at Tucker's factory.



Naughty Amateur Home Videos hosts Inari Vachs and Dirk Roberts (pictured) double as sex-toy inspectors at the Topco Sales factory in California, which produces Spice Toys and other kinky adult playthings. Along with Julia Ann, the hosts encourage viewers to send in videos of their sexiest amateur romps for a chance to be broadcast on Playboy TV and win prizes.

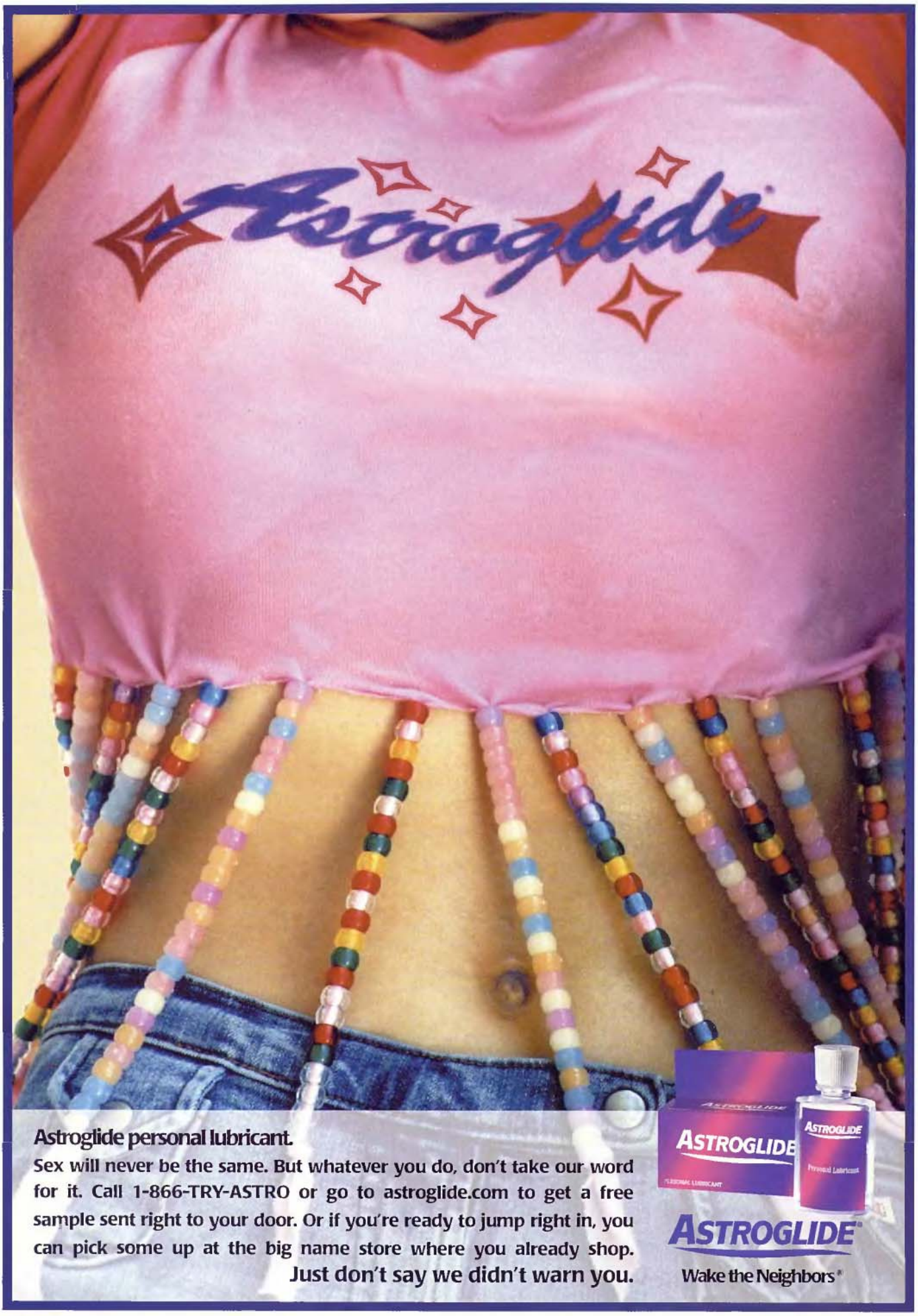
"Topco Sales was the first company in the U.S. to manufacture flexible vibrators made of a material other than plastic, as well as the first rechargeable cordless massagers," he says. "In the past three years, we also came up with a material called CyberSkin that feels so real it's almost scary to touch. I have heard from hospitals interested in using the product for women who have had mastectomies. People have tried to copy us, but no one has been able to come up with the secret formula. Part of this has to do with my background—I studied metallurgical engineering in college and later did my master's and doctorate work in chemistry and physics."

Women are major buyers of adult toys, says Tucker, with vibrators at the top of the list. "The hottest-selling items, according to a buyer in Germany, are batteries," says Tucker. "For men, the most popular are simple masturbation devices and penis-enlargement toys. The latter create a vacuum in a cylinder you place your penis in, causing blood to engorge that area. It works almost 100 percent of the time for everyone, but it doesn't necessarily enlarge it permanently."

Tucker's team constantly tests toys and cooks up new ideas for products to enhance the sex lives of people around the world. "Men know what women really want, but don't react that way in an intimate situation—they are too anxious about tending to their own needs," he says. "It's wonderful if, during intercourse, the girl's clitoris could be stimulated easily and he didn't have to use his hands or worry about how he gyrated his body, so we make toys to do that. I have a patent on a process that enabled us to make a doll with action motion, which means the arms and legs can be positioned in any way you want them. This was a big coup on our part. She can sit, stand and put her legs around you. It's not practical to make a doll completely out of CyberSkin, because it would be too heavy. With some of the dolls out there, you need a wheelbarrow to move them around. We are also in the process of making a lifelike doll that will weigh less than 10 pounds. We have one called Perfect 10 that, in addition to having a mouth that vibrates and sucks and a very realistic vagina area, has a device in her hand that can stroke you." What forthcoming toy is Tucker most excited about? "I'm working on vibrators that will react to your mood with vibrations," he says. "Depending on whether you are excited or want it to go faster or slower, the vibrator will react. It will sense your inner feelings." If you're an exhibitionist and have what it takes to win a cash prize and a basket full of Spice Toys (spicetvstore.com), submit your naughtiest home video to Pinto Productions, 8033 Sunset Boulevard, PMB #30, Los Angeles, CA 90046. *Naughty Amateur Home Videos* airs Monday through Thursday on Playboy TV at 9 P.M. EDT/6 P.M. PDT.

BAREFOOT BEAUTIES

See what happens when the prettiest feet are connected to the hottest girls in *Barefoot Beauties*, available now on DVD and VHS. Playmates showing full toe include Heather Carolin, Tina Jordan, Jennifer Walcott, Stephanie Heinrich and Christi Shake. "I don't like to cover my toes—I think I have pretty feet," says Christi. "During the day I'm usually barefoot, but at night I like wearing open-toe heels. The sexiest shoes a woman can own are a pair of elegant strappy black heels."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POLL POSITION

The moment is forever etched in our memory: After clinching the 1999 Women's World Cup championship with a penalty kick, U.S. soccer star Brandi Chastain rips off her jersey and drops to her knees, revealing a sports bra and chiseled abs. If she'd ditched the bra, it would have been a perfect picture. We like our women athletic, sweaty and naked, don't you? Over the years PLAYBOY has photographed some of the sexiest athletes in the buff—including Olympic skater Katarina Witt, boxer Mia St. John, volleyball star Gabrielle Reese—and Playboy.com now is working to ensure that the list goes on. We've launched a series of online polls asking which athletes you would like to see out of uniform. From the WNBA to the volleyball league AVP, no sport or player is exempt. Winners to date include Phoenix Mercury hoops forward Lisa Harrison, golfer Carin Koch and tennis princess Anna Kournikova (yes, the real Anna Kournikova). The winners—and a few runners-up—are offered the opportunity to appear nude in the magazine. Former WNBA player Tamara Stocks (pictured) posed for our October 2001 issue. In 2000, our *Sexiest Sports Reporter* feature received nearly 250,000 votes and coverage on *Extra*, sports radio shows and in major daily newspapers. CBS sportscaster Jill Arrington narrowly beat *Monday Night Football* sideline reporter Melissa Stark, inspiring *Sports Illustrated* to call it "the season's second most-discussed poll"—the first being the presidential election.

STEPHANIE'S SECRET

In the early Nineties *Sports Illustrated* and Victoria's Secret supermodel Stephanie Seymour slipped out of her trademark lingerie and onto the pages of PLAYBOY for two pictorials, *Stephanie* (March 1991) and *Stephanie's Secret* (February 1993). "The pictures are strong, unique and maybe a bit shocking," Seymour said at the time. "I don't have the perfect Barbie doll face, but I did get famous for this body. I love posing nude. The feeling in these pictures is freedom and strength. I don't hold anything back. But I don't think I'll do any more nudes. It's done. Save this issue, people. It's my grand finale." If you can't find your original copy—or were too young to buy it then—you can see all her photos republished in their entirety in the Cyber Club's "Celebrities" section. Seymour is in good company, joining former cover girls Cindy Crawford, Bo Derek and Marilyn Monroe.

CYBER GIRL OF THE MONTH

What makes a woman sexy? August Cyber Girl of the Manth **Tila Nguyen** says it's all about the eyes. Laak inta hers, then read what else the Texan tald us.

Q: Who is Tila Nguyen?

A: I'm nat a girly girl. I have a huge ego, and can be a bitch if I don't get my way. I don't give a shit what people think af me.

Q: Yau're inta skydiving and jet skiing. What da you dig about extreme sparts?

A: The adrenaline rush. Plus, it's something different fram the party scene.

Q: Da you miss yaur friends in Hauston?

A: Of course. I've met some really caal girls in Las Angeles, but they're not the kind of girls that yau want to spill your guts ta.

Q: On your Cyber Girl questiannaire, yau rave about "getting it an with Bridget far a Playbay video shoot." Are yau into women?

A: Yes. I take wamen more seriously. I respect them more. I don't have ane-night stands with wamen.

Far an exclusive videa and additional phatas af Tila, click an cyber.playbay.com.

WHAT'S THE WILDEST PLACE YOU'VE HAD SEX?

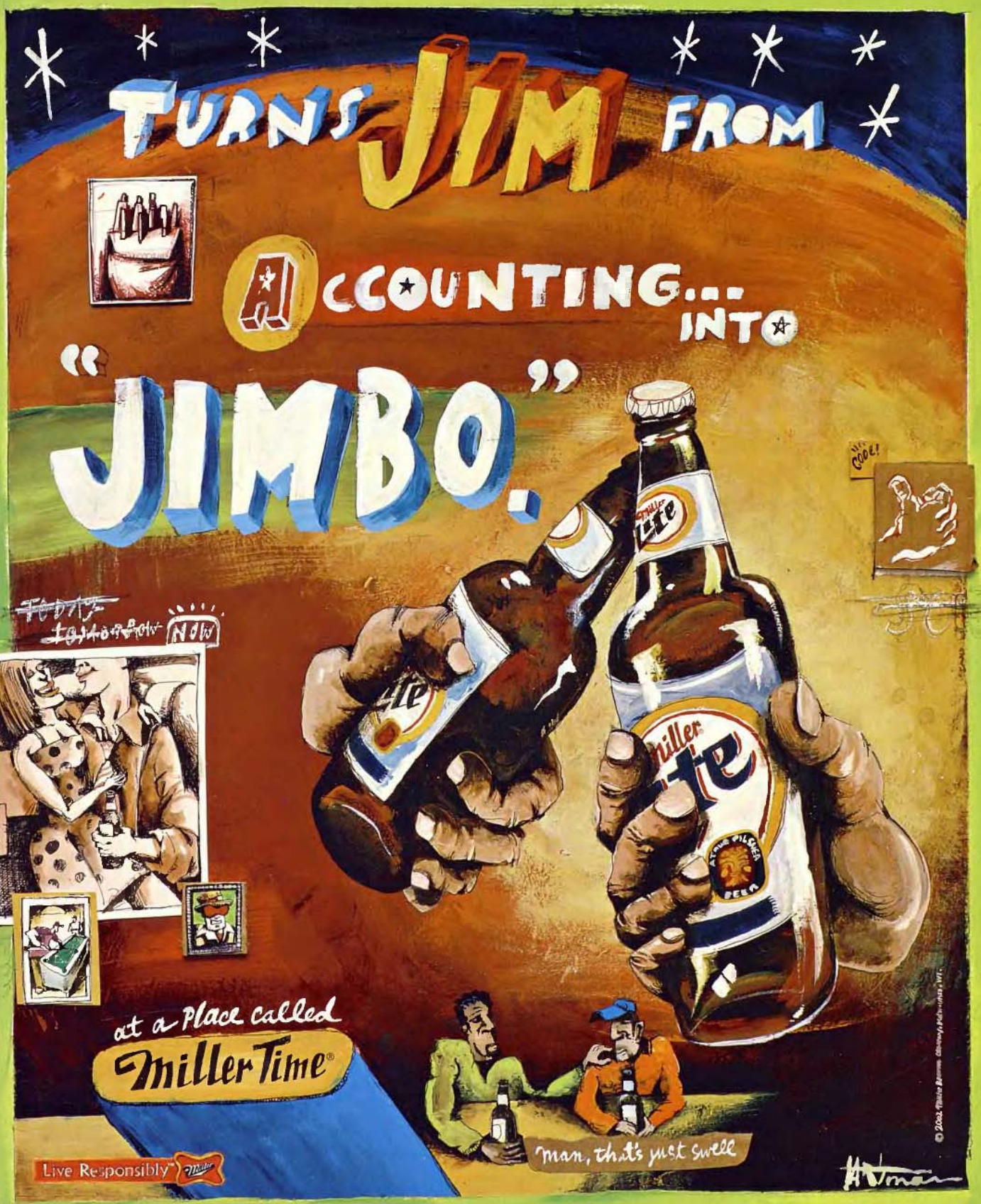
playboy.com users tell their tales

"My girlfriend and I were arrested and tossed into a squad car. On the way to the station, she bent over, pulled down my shorts with her teeth and gave me head."—B.D., California

"You know those little elf huts in the middle of the mall at Christmastime? I jokingly made a comment about doing it in one of them, and, surprisingly, my girlfriend agreed. It didn't take long for me to deliver my present."—J.S., Tennessee

"I sat on a barstool as my girlfriend went down on me. The bartender brought the drinks, sized up the situation and said, 'On the house, buddy.'"—N.P., Colorado

"During one of our Army field exercises, my female co-driver and I had sex on the hood of a Humvee. The vehicle began to rock, and then the ring-mounted M-60 machine gun started squeaking."—B.W., Ohio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By ASA BABER

WHAT SHE NEEDS FIRST

WHAT FOLLOWS is a multiple-choice quiz. Certain situations will be described. You are to select the response you think any woman would choose first, above all others. Do not cheat, do not scroll down, do not show your answers to anyone. By the time you reach the end of this quiz, you will have learned a vital fact that will increase your ability to meet, greet, seduce and hold on to the women who appeal to you the most:

(1) *You are cruising bars on a Saturday night when you see a luscious angel of a woman walking down the street alone. Suddenly, she trips in front of a restaurant and falls, spilling things out of her purse, skinning—and possibly breaking—her knee. She is in tears as you lean down to help her. You:*

(a) scoop up her money and makeup kit and brushes and combs and make sure she hasn't lost anything. You then tell her you will guard her and her belongings until help arrives. You assume your black-belt karate stance and fend off several gang members and one pit bull and his coked-up master.

(b) as a medical resident, hail a cab and accompany her to the hospital so she can have her knee X-rayed, bandaging it yourself afterward and arranging for six months of physical therapy for her at your expense.

(c) are a lawyer, too, so, as she lies there, you prepare her case and promise to sue the restaurant for big money, pro bono. You videotape everything and have your legal assistant bring all the necessary paperwork to the scene. "I will take this to the Supreme Court if I have to," you tell her, "and it won't cost you a dime."

(d) show her how seriously you view this moment by taking out your cell phone and calling your brother, the mayor, who comes over right away to close the restaurant.

(2) *Standing on a beach and gazing at the horizon just as a hurricane approaches, you think you see someone struggling to stay afloat in the distance. Heedless of danger, brave beyond rationality, you strip off your tuxedo (hey, it could happen) and plunge into the cold and furious water. Your life is on the line, your fatigue is immeasurable, you frequently lose sight of your quarry and almost give up, but then you see she is a Pamela Anderson look-alike. Remotivated, you:*

(a) reach her, pull her to safety and then breathe life back into her gorgeous lungs. As you wrap her in a blanket, use your waterproof penlight to signal (in the Morse code you learned as an Eagle Scout) a Coast Guard helicopter for an emergency evacuation.

(b) reach her, teach her your newly devised lifesaving method from your best-selling book *Flotation Techniques for Women With Breast Implants* (Oprah loved it, Imus hated it), watch her frolic happily in the surf as she prospers in her newfound knowledge, persuade her to come ashore with you, then carry her to your house on the beach and fix a pitcher of martinis.

(c) call the Weather Channel and arrange TV coverage of the rescue, lining up several sponsors in only a few minutes. After you paint the Nike symbol on your back (boy, does that take physical flexibility!) and fight through the storm and bring her to safety, you step away from the cameras and give her the 15 minutes of fame she deserves. You then call a limousine and take her home.

(d) start to swim toward her but return to the beach and uncover your CIA satellite transmitter and receiver, explain to Langley that, yes, you are still on the alert for the Iraqi fleet but that there's a life to be saved. You are patched through to the nuclear submarine *Clitoris*, report the woman's precise geographic coordinates and watch the sub rise gently, like a tin whale, under the nearly drowned, artificially endowed woman in distress. The sub then brings her close to shore, where you gather her into your arms before the horny submariners locked in that atomic dildo for six months can break the top hatch, saving her from a gang bang by radioactive squid.

(3) *Call it professionalism, or intuition, but you have a strong suspicion that the large man smelling of garlic and jet fuel sitting on the aisle next to you on the airplane headed from Paris to New York is a terrorist. For one thing, he contemptuously waves off the tray of kosher food offered by the delectable French flight attendant (her name is Monique de Chien, and she flashes her emerald eyes at you often). For another, this guy has stuffed three Claymore mines and a bunch of electrical fuses under the seat in front of him and seems to be trying to wire them together while quietly cursing in Arabic. Then it happens. He bounces from his seat and grabs petite Monique, holding a bowie knife to her throat and threatening to blow up the Concorde. You:*

(a) speak to him in flawless Arabic, calmly reciting passages from the Koran and explaining that his actions will produce nothing but resentment and fear in the Western world. All the while, you inch closer to him until he is within striking distance, at which point you deliver one sharp blow to his Adam's apple, severing his trachea. You then wrap Monique in a blanket and give her a hot-stone massage.

(b) stand up bravely and challenge the terrorist's manhood, mocking him for choosing a woman as a hostage, demanding that he take you instead, pulling Monique away from him and sending her to the front of the cabin. Then, just as he tries to lock you in his grip, you wind your watch once and point it at his face, releasing a dose of nerve gas designed to kill him instantly while giving all women in uniform, including Monique, fierce and immediate orgasms.

(c) shoot him in the balls with your Glock before he can do anything else, hugging Monique afterward and asking her to marry you as soon as the flight lands in New York.

(d) tug twice on your XK95 decoder ring and move the aircraft through a black hole and into a time warp to the year 6006, saving everyone.

The quiz is over. Which answers did you choose? Write them down on a piece of paper, then swallow it immediately, because I have just tricked you. Every woman in the world will tell you that none of the valiant actions related here accurately describe what they would really want you to do first in each of those fantastic scenarios.

Your lesson for the day: Before you save her, gentlemen, you must always remember to say this magical and necessary phrase as you risk life and limb: *"I'm so sorry this has happened to you!"* Say it to her about 10,000 times in the midst of your rescue efforts, even if you are out of breath. Unless you do so, you will violate the female First Amendment, which is: *No fornication without commiseration.*

The words I'm sorry as the secret to all seduction? Sounds silly, but try it. She'll reward you for it, because in a woman's world, empathy and sympathy beat heroism every time.

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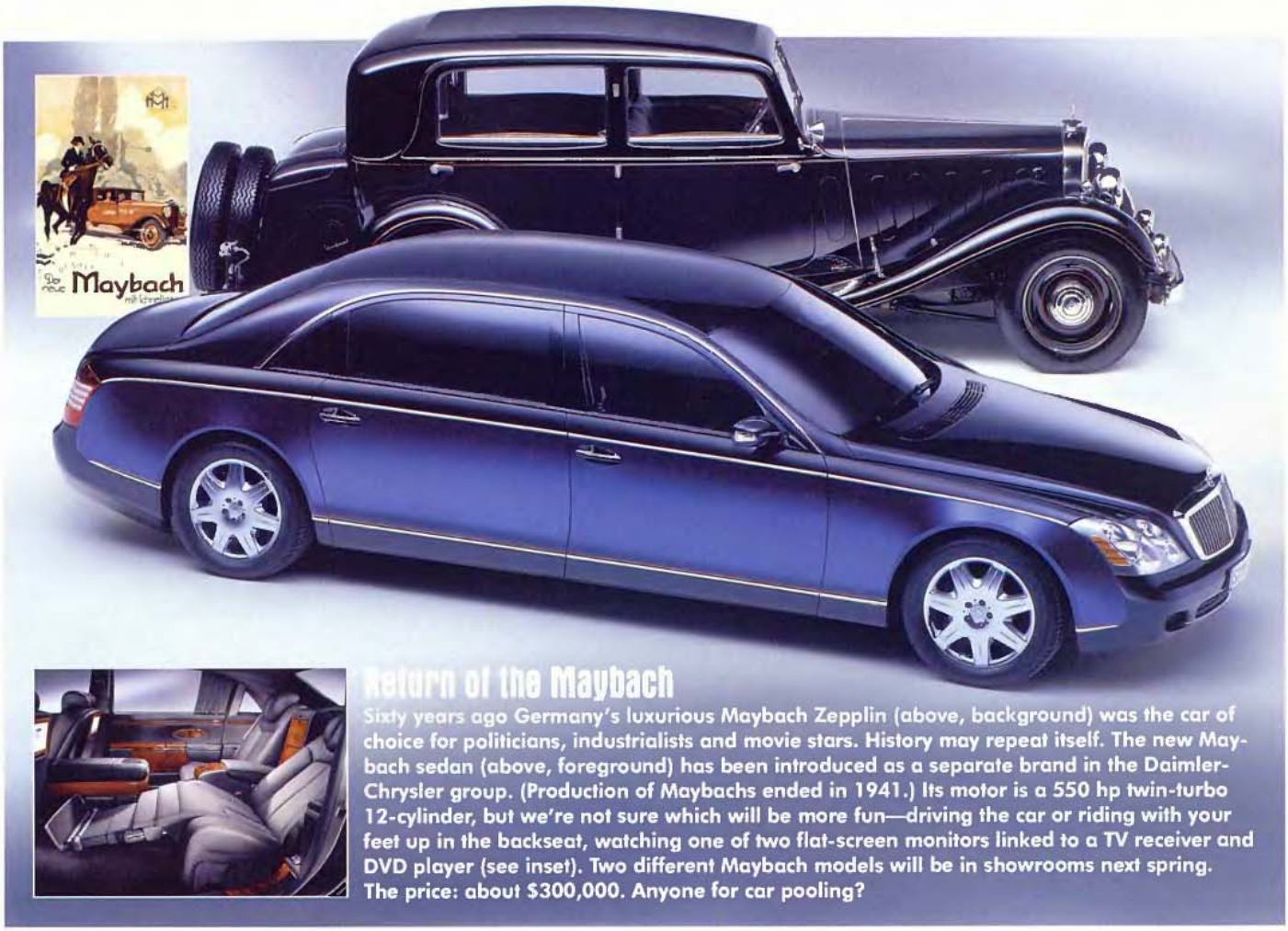
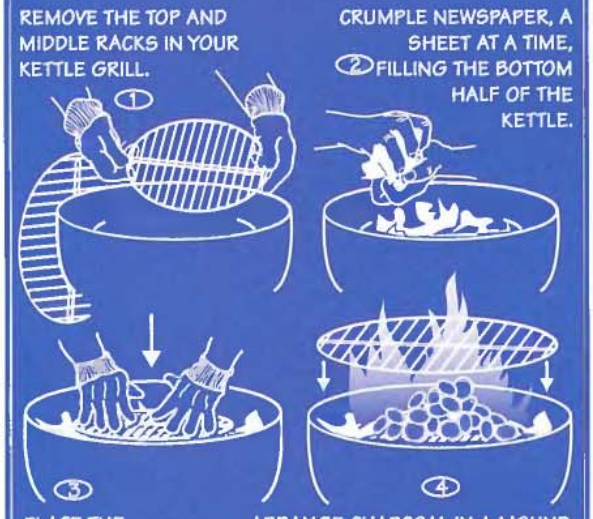


Return of the Maybach

Sixty years ago Germany's luxurious Maybach Zepplin (above, background) was the car of choice for politicians, industrialists and movie stars. History may repeat itself. The new Maybach sedan (above, foreground) has been introduced as a separate brand in the Daimler-Chrysler group. (Production of Maybachs ended in 1941.) Its motor is a 550 hp twin-turbo 12-cylinder, but we're not sure which will be more fun—driving the car or riding with your feet up in the backseat, watching one of two flat-screen monitors linked to a TV receiver and DVD player (see inset). Two different Maybach models will be in showrooms next spring. The price: about $300,000. Anyone for car pooling?

GRILLING WITHOUT CHEMICALS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2
3
PLACE THE BOTTOM RACK ON ITS SUPPORTS. YOU MAY HAVE TO SQUISH DOWN THE PAPER.
4
ARRANGE CHARCOAL IN A MOUND. LIGHT THE PAPER. WHEN THE PAPER HAS BEEN BURNED, THE CHARCOAL WILL BE IGNITED. WHEN CHARCOAL IS READY, SMOOTH OUT THE BRIQUETTES. PUT TOP RACK IN PLACE.

Viva Tequila

A shot of tequila with salt and a wedge of lime is fine if you are downing an inexpensive brand. But plan to linger over Jose Cuerva's Reserva de la Familia, an añejo tequila produced once a year. It's aged in new French and American oak barrels before being sampled for quality by a member of the Cuervo family. The barrels of tequila that are worthy of the name Reserva are then hand-poured into bottles that are labeled, numbered and sealed with the family crest. Each bottle is sold in a wooden box that features artwork by a local artist. No wonder a 750 ml bottle of Reserva de la Familia costs about $125. The long-stemmed tequila glass shown at right is by Riedel Crystal. The price: about $10 each.

MANTRACK

Play You for a Cold One

When Anheuser-Busch wanted a pool table adorned with the Budweiser logo, it went to Olhausen Billiards Manufacturing, a family-owned company in Poway, California that bills itself as "the best in billiards." Brothers Donny and Butch Olhausen are the head pool sharks who started the company in 1973. Back then, the annual production run totaled 60 tables. Today, it's 30,000. The Anheuser-Busch eight-foot solid-maple model (above) incorporates leather pockets and carved panels that are embellished with Budweiser logos. Special features include a three-piece diamond-honed slate playing surface and Olhausen's exclusive Accu-Fast cushions, which have a lifetime guarantee. Price: $5495. A matching Budweiser 10-cue wall rack is available for $399. Both the table and wall rack are sold through authorized Olhausen dealers. Log on to OlhausenBilliards.com for more information.

Clothesline: Danny Kass, Ross Powers and J.J. Thomas

American snowboarders won gold, silver and bronze in the halfpipe competition at Salt Lake City last winter—the first U.S. medals sweep in the Winter Olympics in 46 years. Their dress styles are decidedly uncompetitive. "I'm sponsored by Ralph Lauren, so I wear anything from his jeans and sweatshirts to some of the company's dressy stuff," says Ross Powers (center), who won the gold. "I like the RLX sportswear line, too, and one day I hope to get a Ralph Lauren tux." Donny Kass (left), who took the silver, looks to Grenade Gloves and Quicksilver Clothing when choosing sportswear. "Oh yeah, and Armani," a remark that got laughs from his teammates. "My favorite clothes are made by Oakley and my favorite place to shop is Wal-Mart—and that's no joke" says J.J. Thomas (right), who got the bronze. As for dressing up, "I'm getting there. Right now I'm at the Diesel and Polo stage."

Provence of Alain Ducasse

Alain Ducasse is the only chef in the world whose restaurants have received six Michelin stars. Plus, he's the author of several books on French cuisine, including *Provence of Alain Ducasse: Recipes, Addresses and Places*—a guide to the region's best markets, wineries, restaurants and villages, accompanied by his handwritten notes. The "Where to" and "My Favorite" sections are particularly fun and useful. If you're a truffles fiend, don't miss the turbot with fondue of anchovies and truffled beurre blanc at L'Auberge de la Fenière. Price: $45. Assouline is the publisher.

Guys Are Talking About...

Light. The Las Vegas nightclub in the Bellagio Hotel that opened with Sting, Leonardo DiCaprio and Charlie Sheen in attendance. An 8000-square-foot bar and lounge area surrounds a sunken dance floor bordered with velvet booths that invite serious cuddling. But what has really switched Light on is its buy-the-bottle liquor policy. No single shots, guys. If your table is drinking bubbly, Louis Roederer Brut will set you back $195. The hard stuff starts at $250, with a liter of Jack Daniels, Absolut or Bacardi Light offered as some of the choices. • *Dodgeball*. The World Dodgeball Association says this new tournament sport isn't the same as the schoolyard game in which you tried to slam your buddy in the face with the ball. "Teamwork and skill are part of the strategy," says commissioner Mark Leonard. A 12-college tour begins this fall. The WDA envisions a professional dodgeball league in the near future. • *Gourmet salt*. This is not the stuff you use to ring your margarita glass. We're talking exotic cooking salt, such as Danish smoked salt made in a process that dates back to the Vikings. There's also Peruvian pink sea salt from a landlocked sea in the Andes. Bricks of it are carried 200 miles to market on the backs of llamas. Chef Michel Nischan of Heartbeat Restaurant in Manhattan says it's "unbelievable on sliced ripe tomatoes." The price for either salt is $11 for a two-ounce bottle, from the Cooking School of Aspen.

WHERE AND HOW TO BUY ON PAGE 154.

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The Playboy Advisor

How do you properly rack the balls for a game of pool?—C.K., St. Louis, Missouri

In eight ball, the balls can be racked in any order as long as number eight sits at the center. Alternating stripes and solids is not required, but the shooter may ask for a re-rack if he doesn't like how things look. In nine ball (where you pocket nine balls in numerical order), rack them in a diamond shape with number one at the head, number nine in the center and the remainder in any order. For more guidance, download the American Poolplayers Association rule book at poolplayers.com. Our favorite section explains what to do if your buddy starts knocking in the wrong balls, e.g., stripes when he's playing solids: "It is permissible, though not recommended, that the sitting player allow the shooting player to continue shooting his balls in until he feels inclined to call the foul." However, if your friend gets wise and asks which balls he should be hitting, "the sitting player must tell him the truth." What kind of rule is that?

What is a Brazilian bikini wax? Why are guys so hot over it?—J.W., San Francisco, California

They're hot for it because it reveals more woman. It has a reputation for enhancing oral sex and intercourse by uncovering acres of sensitive skin (Gwyneth Paltrow once thanked the J Sisters, seven Brazilian siblings who run a New York salon, for changing her life). The Brazilian involves using hot wax to remove every hair, including those in the butt crack and on the taint and labia, with the exception of a landing strip above the vulva. The process is unpleasant and must be repeated monthly. Also known as a Playboy because of its popularity among our models, it originated with thong bikinis. According to stylists at another New York hot spot, Completely Bare, the trend lately is to leave nothing behind, because some shorts and jeans ride low enough to reveal the tip of the strip. The salon also offers glue-on crystals or hand-painted graffiti, including some that glow in the dark. If you'd rather not spread for a stranger, visit JustKittyng.com, which offers home-stencil kits. Or visit the Archive and Alwyn Salon in London. It specializes in merkins, which are pubic wigs made from nylon or hair (human or yak) fashioned into logos, targets, hearts or other shapes and affixed with a G-string or glue. We wear one over our bald spot.

Is it OK to wear black shoes with a navy blue suit? How about with blue jeans?—C.J., Chicago, Illinois

Yes, and yes.

The other day my wife told me that two guys she knows offered her money to see her breasts. She refused but says she wouldn't mind having the cash. I told her it was up to her, but to be careful. After the breasts, they'll want more. Any advice?—W.P., Chicago, Illinois

We assume it wasn't your wife's first day at the strip club. Your instincts are right; these guys are likely to ask for more. If she's willing to flash, she should do it only when you're in the room. Bring an egg timer.

From what I gather, I masturbate differently than most guys. Wearing underwear, I lie on my stomach, make my right hand into a fist and rub my penis with my knuckles. It might sound odd, but it's the only thing that works for me. I've tried stroking my penis the normal way but I can't reach orgasm. It also affects me when I'm with a woman. Blow jobs don't do much for me, and I take forever to come during sex. Have you ever heard of this?—B.B., Santa Barbara, California

Sure. Many therapists believe that if you masturbate in an unorthodox way over a long period of time, you may condition yourself to respond only to that stimulation. Your situation is a textbook example of what has been called "traumatic masturbatory syndrome." Writing in the Journal of Sex and Marital Therapy, therapist Lawrence Sank described four of his patients who had trouble getting erect or reaching orgasm during sex. He attributed this to their masturbatory technique, which was to lie on their stomachs and rub their penises against the mattress, a pillow or the sheets. One 62-year-old had used this method almost daily for decades to avoid touching his penis, which a priest had told him was the equivalent of "recrucifying Jesus." Another man used your technique, but with both fists. Sank calls for better sex education for young men to prevent these problems. An online site devoted to fighting TMS recommends that boys be taught to masturbate only on their backs. Another, jackinworld.com, has more methods for beating off than we thought possible. You may find it helpful. Our favorite technique is to use her hand.

Which is better, a Roth or traditional IRA?—H.R., Hartford, Connecticut

The Roth, by a long shot. It's a financial planner's wet dream—at least until Congress changes the rules. The chief difference is that you pay taxes on Roth contributions up front but withdraw those contributions and earnings tax-free when you start drawing on the account after age 59½. With a traditional IRA, you may be able to contribute tax-free up front, but you'll pay the going rate on contributions and earnings when you retire.

A few years ago a man wrote the Advisor asking for a pill that would make his wife hornier. You gave him a lame response, something about helping his partner relax. I'm as relaxed as I'll ever be. I also don't have any chemical imbalances. But I have no desire for sex, which frustrates my wonderful husband of 10 years. I began losing my libido after the birth of our son. My husband deserves better. Can you help?—T.G., Dallas, Texas

We'll try. Let's run through the most common reasons women suffer a loss of libido. Perhaps one or more will strike a nerve: (1) A diminishing sex drive isn't unusual during pregnancy and after childbirth, especially among women who breast-feed. Children can be exhausting in general. A British study of 1000 women ages 30 to 55 found that one in three reported being too tired for sex and attributed it to working full-time while also running a household. (2) Health problems such as diabetes or thyroid disease can make sex uncomfortable, and many women suffer from dyspareunia (pain during intercourse). Depression may be the most common libido killer. (3) Medications such as birth control pills, antibiotics, antihistamines and antidepressants may hamper desire. At the same time, some studies suggest that the antidepressant Wellbutrin can help restore lust in some women. (4) Relationship problems can spill into the bedroom, as can body image issues—with your own body or that of your partner. (5) Hormonal changes in a woman's late 30s, 40s or early 50s may play a role. About a third of women report a loss of libido in the years before menopause, and about 40 percent in menopause. What treatments are available? Estrogen or

ILLUSTRATION BY ISTVAN BANYAI

testosterone may help. Regular exercise is often overlooked as an aphrodisiac. Some therapists recommend a steady diet of literary erotica. Artificial lube is a great salve (see the following letter). As we've mentioned in the past, a classic treatment is sensual massage. It not only relieves stress but also redefines sex as more than intercourse that leads to orgasm.

I'm 19 and my girlfriend is 18. Before we have sex for the first time, should I get some sort of lube? Which do you recommend?—G.G., Indianapolis, Indiana

You're already thinking like a great lover. Many guys are threatened by lube—the world's most underrated sex toy—because they feel inadequate if they can't get their partners sufficiently wet. But many factors affect how much a woman lubricates, including her menstrual cycle, pregnancy, diet, dehydration, exercise and stress levels. What you need (and what most drugstores carry) are water-based lubes such as Astroglide, ForPlay, ID and Wet. Some people prefer silicone-based lubes such as Eros or Wet Platinum, which stay slick longer and don't get sticky. However, they don't clean up as easily (one company sells a substance you can use to "degrease" after sex with silicone lube). Never use vegetable oil, Vaseline, cooking oil, baby oil, lotion or moisturizer. These substances break down latex condoms and are difficult to wash out. Plus, they don't stay wet.

In June you ran a letter from a reader who'd given his wife a Corvette and was irritated that he couldn't drive it without her OK. My wife had always wanted a white Vette. After searching for eight months, I found a pristine 1992 ZR-1 and gave it to her for our 16th anniversary. One afternoon I was going fishing. When I opened the garage door to grab my equipment, the gleaming monster called to me. As you may have guessed, I slipped off the road and totaled that beautiful machine. I'm still torn up about it, and my wife is so upset she told me not to bother looking for a replacement. The lesson here is, never drive your wife's Vette, especially when you have toys of your own.—F.R., Sewell, New Jersey

We're glad you're OK. Allow your wife time to grieve, then give her another Vette—along with both sets of keys.

This past May you answered a question about cyberskin sex toys, such as dildos, butt plugs and fake vaginas and lips. You asked, "Who would buy something made of cyberskin a second time?" I thought that your response was too negative and might discourage people from enjoying these wonderfully textured toys. My husband and I have found that as long as the cyberskin is wiped down with a cleaner such as Safe Suds, dried well and dusted with cornstarch every time the toy is used, it stays in great shape. As for the "clamminess" you found so disconcerting, a touch of lube makes that go away.—V.T., Phoenix, Arizona

We're not sure if this is an endorsement, but someone stole our fake vagina.

I'm 42 and in great shape, yet my ejaculations have become more ooze than gush. I have no problem getting an erection or reaching orgasm. I'm just concerned that the force of the ejaculation is so much less than it was a few years ago. Are there exercises I can do, or herbs I can take? I've tried holding back, hurrying things, contracting and relaxing but haven't found anything that works.—M.B., Austin, Texas

Welcome to the other side. Once a guy hits 40, he typically begins to notice a decrease in the intensity of his sexual sensations, the ease with which he can achieve an erection (what once required only a fantasy now demands a woman's touch), the speed by which he can get another erection after climax and the force, volume and frequency of ejaculation. In most cases, this is because testosterone tapers off at the same time the prostate—the walnut-size pumping station that supplies your semen—slows down. Its orgasmic contractions don't produce the same pressure they did when you were 20, which means the wave of fluid coming from the gland and your seminal vesicles isn't as powerful.

The time has come for me to get a high-speed Internet connection. Do you recommend DSL or cable?—R.M., Seattle, Washington

Get cable and you'll be sharing the bandwidth with everyone in your neighborhood. That could be a problem if you live near a lot of teen boys. The more important decision is choosing a provider. Poll your neighbors and friends about which broadband provider they use, and if they've had problems. You also can find guidance by entering your zip code at sites such as DSLReports.com, where surfers recount happy or horrific experiences with various ISPs.

You advised a reader in April to "talk filthy" to his girlfriend. Your language reminded me of the ill-advised admonishment to children that "sex is dirty." In a magazine that promotes sexual activity as an important part of the good life, I would think you'd find better terms. Some that come to mind are sexy, suggestive, uninhibited and wild.—G.J., Weston, Connecticut

Children eventually learn that sex is dirty, but only if you're doing it right (credit: Woody Allen). The shock value of the language is what unleashes the libido; that's why men and most women don't get their thrills from romance novels. When a prim and proper mother of two informs you that she's about to "lick your balls hard and suck your cock dry," that's filthy, uncivilized and worth repeating. Sexy is when she licks her lips at dinner.

A reader wrote in May to say that he had given his wife permission to have sex with other men. But when she slept with a mutual friend, he couldn't handle it. When I allowed my wife this privilege a few years ago, I found that the less I knew, the better. She didn't tell me who she had slept with, and I didn't ask. By leaving the details to my imagination, we had great sex. Eventually I learned that some of the guys had been our friends, but at that point I didn't care, because she had always come home to me. Perhaps if the reader hadn't asked, or if his wife hadn't told him so much, they would be as pleased with the arrangement as we are.—B.B., Raleigh, North Carolina

This is one reason these missions need to be discussed prelaunch. Even then, it's hard to predict how everyone involved will react. For example, what happens if one of the guys your wife sleeps with falls for her? It may not change your relationship, but it could get messy. The next letter presents a similar problem, but with a twist:

The thought of my husband having an affair makes me wet, especially the anticipation I'd feel before his return after a night out. The problem is that whenever he's in a position to meet another woman, he refuses to pretend to be single, or at least unhappily married. He won't even remove his wedding ring. Few women believe that this mature, sexy guy is being truthful when he says he has my permission to cheat. I've watched from afar at parties and it's clear that women adore him. But then they get nervous. You're married? And your wife says that it's OK? Yeah, right. What should I do? Send along a permission slip? Make a matronly phone call?—L.R., Phoenix, Arizona

We like your husband's approach because it's honest and keeps the third party in the fantasy from having any illusions about what she's getting into. It's not an affair—it's a threesome with the wife waiting at home. Next time your husband reaches the point where a prospect can't believe he has your approval, have him give you a signal. Introduce yourself. Explain that "we each do our own thing," or be more direct: "My husband is the best lover I've ever had—and I don't mind sharing." Then take your leave. You can't do everything for the guy.

All reasonable questions—from fashion, food and drink, stereo and sports cars to dating dilemmas, taste and etiquette—will be personally answered if the writer includes a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The most provocative, pertinent questions will be presented in these pages each month. Write the Playboy Advisor, PLAYBOY, 680 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60611, or send e-mail by visiting playboyadvisor.com.

FROM NIXON TO NOW

a flawed drug policy marches on

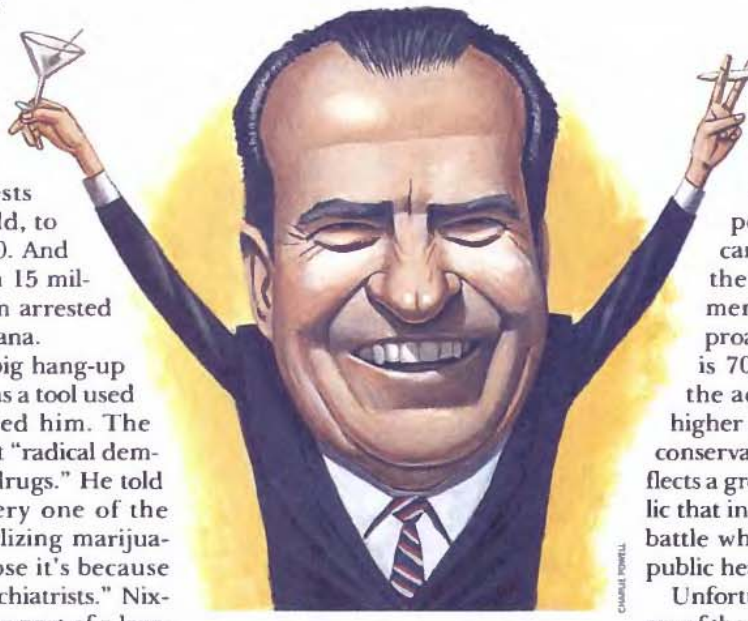
There's one thing you can say for the war on drugs: It's consistent. The effort is tinged with the same hypocrisy, dishonesty and propaganda that characterized President Richard Nixon's launch of it during the early Seventies.

Earlier this year the National Archives released tapes Nixon made in the Oval Office during 1971 and 1972. Transcripts highlight the prejudice, ignorance and self-deception that precipitated a national tragedy. While the president appointed a commission that called for decriminalizing the possession and small-scale sale of marijuana, Nixon pushed for an "all-out war, on all fronts," against pot smokers. Within a year marijuana arrests had jumped threefold, to 420,700 from 100,000. And since then, more than 15 million people have been arrested in the U.S. for marijuana.

What was Nixon's big hang-up with weed? He saw it as a tool used by those who opposed him. The president claimed that "radical demonstrators are all on drugs." He told confidants that "every one of the bastards out for legalizing marijuana is Jewish. I suppose it's because most of them are psychiatrists." Nixon saw the drug war as part of a larger cultural war: "Homosexuality, dope, immorality in general—these are the enemies of strong societies. That's why the Communists and left-wingers are pushing the stuff. They're trying to destroy us."

In his notes from the time, Nixon aide Bob Haldeman reported that the White House saw tough drug laws as a way to keep the black community in check. "The whole problem is the blacks," Haldeman wrote. "The key is to devise a system that recognizes this while not appearing to." The Nixon legacy? More blacks in prison, and fewer voting. While blacks make up approximately 15 percent of drug users, they represent 55 percent of drug convictions. Thirteen percent have lost the right to vote because of felony convictions, often for drug offenses. In Florida alone, an estimated 204,600 black men cannot vote—enough to have easily turned the presidential election, even allowing for quite a few dangling chads.

While speaking with entertainer and antidrug crusader Art Linkletter, Nixon dismissed any comparison between the mood-altering effects of alcohol and those of drugs. He asserted that while people smoke to get high, they don't drink to get drunk but only to have fun.



That simple but absurd distinction has influenced domestic policy for 30 years. The feds are punitive on pot use but compassionate about alcohol abuse. Critics of the drug war have called for an end to treating drug users as criminals. They point to the cost of this jihad. The government's response? Clever accounting. The drug war budget already does not include the cost of military personnel working on drug enforcement, such as the soldiers and civilian contractors employed in Colombia by the U.S. Now the White House also will exclude the expense of prosecuting and/or imprisoning offenders. According to drug czar John Walters, these are indirect costs for his office.

It gets better. This year, for the first time, the cost of treating alcoholics—people addicted to a substance that's legal in every state—will be added to the budget. So much for Nixon's distinction between tokers and tipplers.

Why these Enron-like tricks? The easy answer is that they allow President Bush to cut the federal drug budget from $19.2 billion to $11.4 billion without any sacrifice. More important, Bush and Walters can maintain that the split in the budget between enforcement and treatment costs approaches 50–50 (the actual split is 70–30). This not only allows the administration to claim the higher ground—it's compassionate conservatism at work—but it also reflects a growing belief among the public that incarceration is not the way to battle what is being recognized as a public health crisis.

Unfortunately, it's all lies. The leaders of the drug war have become comfortable with their ability to churn out propaganda. They can assert with straight faces that the $3 billion annual cost of incarcerating offenders is not a cost of the war. This sort of dishonesty shows the drug warriors realize they are losing support. According to one national survey, three in four Americans believe the war is a losing cause. Voters in California and Arizona have told authorities to provide treatment to offenders rather than send them to prison. More reforms are sure to follow.

By KEVIN B. ZEESE

Kevin B. Zeese is the president of Common Sense for Drug Policy (csdp.org).

BAD JUDGE, BAD

welcome to the keystone courts

By Patty Lamberti

There are 30,000 local and state judges in the U.S. Each spring *The National Law Journal* publishes a select list of those who left the bench under a cloud during the previous year. (Ticket fixers and judges who are alcoholics are not eligible—there are too many of them.) Of those chosen for the magazine's hall of shame, most are seriously corrupt and a few are just bizarre. Here are some of our favorites:

Master Robert Hollman, a judge in Ector County, Texas, fancied himself to be a real cowboy. His secretary, identified in court records as AH, complained to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that he forced her to play the role of his damsel in distress. The State Commission on Judicial Conduct described a typical workday in the judge's chambers this way: "Hollman would bind AH's hands behind her back, tie her ankles together and gag her with a scarf. Judge Hollman would sometimes carry the bound and gagged AH around the office or leave AH tied to a chair or lying on the floor." With bondage videos playing in the background, the judge on some occasions timed how long it took AH to wriggle free. After AH's complaint to the EEOC became public, Hollman resigned. His lawyer insisted the couple's "little games" never interfered with court business.

Missouri Associate Circuit Court Judge John Clark was planning a party and needed work done around his home. So he recruited probationers who had appeared before him to mow his lawn, trim hedges and move stones. He paid them with gas money, meals and credit for community service. Other probationers from his court partially fulfilled their sentences by painting a school where Clark served as a fiscal officer. Although the judge didn't pay the painters, he wrote thousands of dollars worth of checks to himself for "out-of-pocket purchases" for the school's upkeep. After finding him guilty of dozens of charges, the Missouri Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline yanked Clark from the bench.

While hearing a contempt trial, Steven Karto, the only common pleas judge in Harrison County, Ohio, left the bench, testified and gave closing arguments for the prosecution. He later testified as a witness in the same trial. The Ohio Supreme Court suspended Karto for six months, noting that a judge can't be impartial if he also makes closing arguments.

According to a judicial conduct report charging him with malfeasance, Calvin Hotard Jr., a judge in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, allegedly spent his free time cruising New Orleans and passing out his business card to prostitutes. Locals claimed that when he walked into bars frequented by hookers, they flocked to him. For good reason: The Judiciary Commission of Louisiana accused Hotard of allowing the women to fulfill their community service sentences by servicing him. Before the commission could hold a hearing, Hotard retired, citing his diabetes. Soon after, his girlfriend died of an overdose of insulin and other drugs in an apartment Hotard rented to her. The judge, who has since died, admitted that insulin found in the apartment was his.

> With bondage videos playing in the background, the judge bound and gagged his secretary, then timed how long it took her to wriggle free.

While supervising juvenile delinqents in Clarksville, Arkansas who had been assigned to pick up trash along highways, Circuit Chancery Judge Benny Swindell allegedly passed out cigars and cigarettes. In 1997 he escorted a 17-year-old he had sentenced for negligent homicide to a casino in Mississippi, where the legal gambling age is 21. The boy claimed that Swindell provided him with money to play the slots. Swindell called the outing "innocent." When the judge agreed to retire, the Arkansas Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission dropped 15 misconduct charges against him.

Roy Thomas, a part-time district judge in Batesville, Arkansas, supplemented his income by working as a lawyer. As attorney Roy Thomas, he represented a man in a divorce. Four days later the man appeared before Judge Roy Thomas on a domestic abuse charge. The judge eventually dismissed the charges. A month later the man appeared in court on a second abuse charge. Judge Thomas gave him probation. The state also accused Thomas of accepting gifts and below-market loans from a local auto dealer. In the 44 times the dealer appeared in his court for various legal battles, Thomas ruled against the dealership only once. The judge resigned two weeks before he was to appear before a disciplinary committee.

The Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline fined Family Court Judge Frances-Ann Fine for holding hearings without notifying the attorneys or their clients. Fine would use the opportunity to question expert witnesses. In one case she failed to notify a divorcing couple or their attorneys that she had appointed a mediator—who happened to be her first cousin. The commission removed Fine from the bench.

At a charity event held in upstate New York, Judge J. Kevin Mulroy advised a prosecutor to offer plea bargains to two of four men on trial for the murder of a 67-year-old woman. Witnesses said that Mulroy claimed no one

would care if the prosecutor "gave away" the case, because the victim was "just some old nigger bitch." Apparently, charity events bring out the worst in Mulroy. At another one, he reportedly said, "You know how you Italian types are, with your Mafia connections." Trying a case in Utica, the Syracuse-based judge issued an ultimatum to the prosecutor—offer a plea bargain or accept a mistrial. His reason? Mulroy wanted the jury to be dismissed so he could "get out of this fucking black hole of Utica." New York's judicial conduct commission gave Mulroy what he had asked for, kicking him out of Utica's court, as well as every other court in the state.

Lawyers who appeared before A. Eugene Hammermaster, a municipal judge in Pierce County, Washington, gave him the nickname "the hammerin' man" for his habit of browbeating defendants. In 1998 the state Commission on Judicial Conduct suspended Hammermaster for 30 days without pay for, among other infractions, threatening life imprisonment to people who didn't pay traffic fines. Hammermaster defended himself by saying everyone in the courtroom knew it was a joke when he told defendants they'd spend the rest of their lives in the Crowbar Hotel. When he appealed the monthlong suspension to the state supreme court, the justices extended it to six months. After the judge's return to the bench, the Commission on Judicial Conduct again began investigating him for allegedly ordering Hispanics to learn English, demanding that cohabitating couples marry, banishing offenders from the city and routinely humiliating people who appeared in his court, including a man who was mentally ill. The judge agreed to retire if the commission agreed to end the inquiry.

When the mayor of Potosi, Missouri pushed to have elected officials (including judges) dropped from the city's health insurance plan, Judge Ronald Hill responded by reducing all court fines, regardless of the crime, to $1. This had an immediate effect on the city's finances. The judge later told the state supreme court that he did this only to clear his docket of nonviolent cases. But even two people who had committed violent crimes, one of whom had assaulted a police officer, paid $1. Hill didn't stop there. When the mayor's daughter missed a court hearing (she had been scheduled to testify against a man accused of assault but said she misread the date on the subpoena), Hill threw her in jail for a night. At a city meeting, Hill shouted: "It's a good thing I left my gun at home, because I might have shot the mayor. I ought to go up and kill him." He was suspended for the remainder of his two-year term.

A California woman convicted of a vehicle offense asked San Bernardino County Superior Court Judge Fred Heene for more time to complete her community service, explaining that she'd been bedridden for months from complications during her pregnancy. Heene instead ordered her to jail for 44 days. When the woman asked what she should do about her seven-day-old baby, the judge said, "You should have thought about that a long time ago." A judicial committee censured Heene, but allowed him to remain on the bench. He did not seek reelection.

Soon after Susan Chrzanowski became a district judge in Warren, Michigan, she became friends with a married law student. After her friend passed the bar, Chrzanowski appointed him to represent defendants in 56 cases. They then became lovers. He earned more than $16,000 for his work, more than all the other public defenders combined. In 1999 Chrzanowski's lover shot and killed his wife, who was pregnant with their second child. During the police investigation, Chrzanowski denied the affair. When the truth came out, the Judicial Tenure Commission suspended her for 17 months with pay. The state supreme court later suspended her without pay for six months. Her suspension ended this summer.

When the leader of the Church of the Immortal Consciousness filed a slander suit against some of her critics in Coconino County, Arizona, she must have used her spiritual powers to get her case heard in Superior Court Judge J. Michael Flournoy's courtroom. According to newspaper accounts, Flournoy ordered the courtroom lights to be lowered and allowed the audience to sing the Beatles song *In My Life* and channel the spirit of a man from the 15th century. Speaking in a voice she said was that of the man's spirit, the woman announced the case should be settled. Oddly, Flournoy did not receive a sanction for allowing the impromptu séance. When judicial authorities suspended him, it was because he tampered with an official court transcript. He was reinstated in December 2000.

Judge Ellis Willard of Sharkey County, Mississippi didn't like working in the courthouse, so he occasionally held court in the pawnshop that he owned. He admitted that one night at 11:15, he ordered clerks, one of whom had been working at the courthouse all day, to retrieve two files. When she instead offered to bring them the next morning, Willard had her arrested, then found her guilty of contempt and sentenced her to probation. The state's Commission on Judicial Performance also accused Willard of dismissing a DUI case without cause, discussing cases over the telephone and fabricating evidence. The Mississippi Supreme Court removed him from the bench.

Marvin Mitchell, a justice of the peace in Amarillo, Texas, liked making follow-up calls to teenage girls who had appeared in his court on truancy charges. Four girls said he asked them to talk dirty over the phone. Mitchell pleaded no contest to two misdemeanors. In return for his resignation and community service, the charges were erased from his record.

BATTLE ST

how much is free speech worth?

In August 2001 we presented 20 cases in which listeners had complained to the Federal Communications Commission about "indecent" radio broadcasts. We asked readers to judge for themselves what crossed the line. This time out we want you to play judge, jury and meter maid. Each of these segments that follow were ruled indecent by the FCC. Can you guess the fine the agency imposed? Nail all seven and you win 30 seconds to say whatever you want on the radio.

(1) Your Revolution (rap by Sarah Jones), KBOO-FM, Portland, Oregon

"Your revolution ain't going to knock me up without no ring, and produce little future MCs. Because that revolution will not happen between these thighs. Your revolution will not be you smacking it up, flipping it or rubbing it down. Your revolution will not have me singing, 'Ain't no nigger like the one I got.' Your revolution will not be you sending me for no drip-drip VD shot. Your revolution will not involve me or feeling your nature rise, or having you fantasize. You will not be touching your lips to my triple dip of French vanilla, butter pecan, chocolate deluxe, or having Akinyele's dream, a six-foot blow job machine. You want to subjugate your queen, think I'm going to put it in my mouth just because you made a few bucks. Please, brother, please."

KBOO argued that *Your Revolution* is a "feminist attack on male attempts to equate political revolution with promiscuous sex." The FCC countered that whatever the work's cultural value, its sexual references "appear to be designed to pander and shock." Earlier this year, Jones sued the FCC for allegedly violating her First Amendment rights.

☐$7000 ☐$8000 ☐$10,000
☐$14,000 ☐$21,000

(2) Call-in Conversation, *Kramer & Twitch*, KEGL-FM, Fort Worth, Texas

HOST: "So you say you're 17 and your parents won't let you listen to us?" GIRL ON PHONE: "Yeah, because my dad is, like, a bishop in my church, so he thinks you guys are evil." HOST: "Well, 17 is the legal age of consent. So you don't need his permission to listen." GIRL: "He says it will put evil thoughts in my head." HOST: "Have you been thinking about sex?" GIRL: "He says that the whole premarital sex thing is evil." HOST: "Of course he thinks that. If you wanted to have sex with one of us, you could do that legally. And I think we should just because of her father. How many times a week do you masturbate?" GIRL: "Four or five." HOST: "How do you do it? Do you put your finger in or do you move it around? Do you use a vibrator? Where do you masturbate?" GIRL: "In my room, usually." HOST: "This is turning me on. What do you sound like when you have an orgasm?" GIRL: "I'm quiet so my parents don't hear." HOST: "Your father would get mad if he thought you were masturbating?" GIRL: "He walked in on me once. He made me read every single Scripture." HOST: "Can I tell you something about your dad, honey? He's been whacking off since he was 12 years old. He does it every single night, whether he has sex with your mom or not. So how do you feel when we tell you your dad masturbates?" GIRL: "I don't want to think about that." HOST: "Would you masturbate in front of us? I think we can get you to buzz your beaver. We will corrupt you, baby! You will be tearing pages out of your daddy's Bible. We want to hear you moan." GIRL, INTERRUPTING: "Colt, are you on the phone?" BOY (ON SAME LINE): "Hello." HOST: "Are you her brother?" BOY: "Uh-huh." HOST: "Do you ever watch while she's masturbating?" BOY: "Doing what?" HOST: "God[*beep*] son of a bitch! Whore! [*Beep*]sucker! She's dogging her vagina every single night with your dad's flashlight! God[*beep*]! God[*beep*]! You're going to hell! You're a sinner! I can't believe you're pregnant, you bitch! You're a whore!" BOY: "What is this?" GIRL: "Colt, hang up the phone!"

KEGL argued, without success, that the exchange contained only "a few scattered and vague references of a sexual nature."

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☐$14,000 ☐$21,000

> KNDD argued that pulling things with your penis is no different from using your nose.

(3) Yelling Guy, *Mancow's Morning Madhouse*, WKQX-FM, Chicago

"This is Anger Anderson, and I want to talk about how my spunkathons are always killed by manly mugs. When I flog my beef stick while watching some pink in a porno, I don't want to see some guy's face. Their faces are so contorted they look like they just smelled a fart—the kind of fart right after you've eaten chimichangas, and right before you take a big sh[*beep*]. I don't want to see shaved porno guy luggage, either. Show me the pink. All the porno guys are dripping sweat. Hell, I don't like to work that hard when I box-bang. I also don't like those endless shots of girls smoking pole. It makes me feel like a homo. Get to the sex and keep the camera on the pink, Spielberg."

In its defense, WKQX noted that Mancow reminds listeners repeatedly that his show "is done by adults for adults" and those who might be offended should "turn off the radio." The FCC fined the station for this segment and explicit conversations with callers.

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(4) Andy Savage Show, KNDD-FM, Seattle

ANDY: "In India, a naked holy man demonstrated against the government's harassment of naked holy men by tying a rope around his penis and pulling a Jeep." JODY: "Do you think that holy man had a superpenis?" ANDY: "I'm sure there's a training regimen. You go from an orange to a TV

ATIONS II

to a motorcycle." JODY: "If someone is willing to let me tie something onto their penis and if they can pull it five feet, we'll give them concert tickets."

[Next day] CALLER: "I have a question about this penis-pulling thing. How could you attach it? Duct tape? If we're talking kite string, God help him." ANDY: "That would sever the head, especially for the circumcised nadoos." JODY: "We're not doing it around the head, we're doing it closer to the bottom of the shaft. You have to use your whole weights and levers." ANDY: "If there's not anything to hold on to, it would slip to the mushroom."

[Following day] ANDY: "You ready for some music news? It might take Carl a little while to get the harness on." CARL: "It's a little tight." ANDY: "Your testicles are too large. Kevin, could you help him? If he can't get the harness on, we can't pull the car."

KNDD argued that discussing pulling things with a penis is no different from talking about dragging objects with a finger or nose. But the FCC, citing a "national community standard that references the average broadcast listener," couldn't get past the bit's "vulgar and lewd references to male genitals in the context of explicit references to penis size, erections and the parts of the male genitals, including the head, shaft and testicles."

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☐$14,000 ☐$21,000

(5) El Manero, WAZX-AM, Smyrna, Georgia

"That reminds me of a little kid joke. There is a little kid who tells his mother: 'Mom, I have to pee. I want Grandpa to take me to the bathroom.' His mother responds, 'Wait until your brother can take you.' The kid screams out, 'No, I want it to be Grandpa.' The mother asks, 'Why does it have to be Grandpa?' The child responds, 'Because his hand shakes.'"

"There was a young man who had lots of blemishes. His friend told him to take a girl to the movies and excite her a lot. Put your hand, well, you know where. When your hand is nice and wet, pass it over your face. He did this and when he came out everyone started screaming, 'He's injured, he's injured!' The girl was menstruating!"

"There's the [masturbation] bicycle technique. Take your penis, squeeze it between your legs and start moving your legs like you're pedaling."

WAZX expressed its regret that the broadcast had "approached the limit of good taste." But it pointed out that these comments had been made by its hosts for comic relief during a discussion of teen sex led by a licensed psychologist. "It is typical in Latin culture to attempt to make light of or fun of otherwise serious topics," it explained. The FCC failed to find the humor.

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☐$14,000 ☐$21,000

(6) Last Damn Show, WLLD-FM, Holmes Beach, Florida

"We ain't going to have no more feedback problem. Fuck it. Make some motherfucking noise. Goddamn, where are my pussy-eating niggers? Any of my niggers into eating pussy? You all make some noise. Hey, where are the girls? If you're eating pussy, where you at? That's it. Oh, they all like it. I ain't eating no pussy tonight. If you all don't like it, fuck it. I don't think you all heard me. I got MTV Best New Artist Slim Shady backstage. Slim motherfucking Shady. Make some noise."

This introduction for rap artist Eminem aired live as part of a five-hour concert. The station argued that the language wasn't all that bad, in context, and who was the FCC to decide, anyway? The FCC called the screed "explicit, graphic, offensive and repetitive." The listener who alerted the FCC to the Slim Shady introduction also complained that some of the performers had used indecent slang such as "pump" and "bang." The station argued that the words referred to violence, not sex. The FCC agreed and dismissed that part of the complaint.

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☐$14,000 ☐$21,000

(7) Femme Forum, WGLD-FM, Oak Park, Illinois

HOST: "Jennifer, how do you keep your sex life alive?" JENNIFER: "I think it's pretty important to keep yourself mentally stimulated. You think about how much fun you're going to be having. If that doesn't work, there are different little things you can do." HOST: "Like?" JENNIFER: "Well, like oral sex when you're driving is a lot of fun. It takes the monotony out of things." HOST: "I can imagine." JENNIFER: "The only thing is, you have to watch out for truck drivers." HOST: "Uh-hum. OK, that sounds like good advice."

A few days later, another caller to the show explained she had overcome her hang-up about oral sex by spreading peanut butter on her husband's privates. "After a while, I didn't need the peanut butter anymore." The FCC fined WGLD, and the station subsequently banned its hosts from having any further on-air discussions about sex. The date: February 1973. How things haven't changed.

☐$7000 ☐$8000 ☐$10,000
☐$14,000 ☐$21,000

ANSWERS

(1) $7000, (2) $14,000, (3) $21,000, (4) $14,000, (5) $7000, (6) $7000, (7) $8000 (adjusted for inflation)

READER

DRUG TERRORISM

It's about time someone revealed the lies put out by the Office of National Drug Policy, whose recent ad campaign claims that Americans who use illegal drugs directly support terrorism ("Guilt Trip," *The Playboy Forum*, June). The government tried to capitalize on the emotions of September 11, and it backfired. The $180 million wasted on advertising each year by the drug czar would be better spent on rehab clinics.

Arthur Pearson
Westminster, Pennsylvania

I'm appalled by "Guilt Trip." If almost half the terrorist organizations identified by the State Department sell drugs to support their terror campaigns, there's a good chance that a person who buys drugs is supporting efforts to destroy the American way of life. Doing that simply to get high is irresponsible and thoughtless.

Jacob McKee
Enfield, Connecticut

Drug users don't contribute to terror nearly as much as the government does when it uses tax dollars to fund revolutionaries who turn out to be not-so-nice guys. If you accept the premise of the drug ads, you also must accept that your taxes help fund terror.

Nick Colangelo
Boston, Massachusetts

Every time I saw those ads I cringed, because I knew many people would stupidly believe them.

Tony Curtis
Dallas, Texas

"Pools can be dangerous for children. To protect them, one can install locks, put up fences and deploy alarms. But by far the most important thing one can do for one's children is to teach them to swim."

—From Youth, Pornography and the Internet, a report by the National Research Council co-edited by former attorney general Richard Thornburgh. Congress had asked the council to study how to prevent children from accessing adult material. It studied the issue for two years before concluding there are no easy answers, including filters or new laws.

POT CLUBS

Dean Kuipers was mistaken in "Pot Clubs Under Attack" (*The Playboy Forum*, June) when he wrote: "Last year the U.S. Supreme Court decided that states could not legalize marijuana for any purpose, regardless of what the voters thought. The Court ruled that the federal Controlled Substances Act, which makes marijuana the legal equivalent of heroin or cocaine, trumps any local measure." In fact, the ruling affected only the case involving the Oakland Cannabis Buyers' Cooperative. The Court declared that the defense of "medical necessity" does not override the Controlled Substances Act, nor does it permit the co-op to distribute marijuana to those who have no other medical options. Justice Clarence Thomas fairly begged for a challenge to the Controlled Substances Act's presumed authority via the Interstate Commerce Clause of the Constitution.

Unfortunately, many in the media have mistakenly reported this narrow decision as a wholesale repudiation of state medical marijuana laws. That is not the case. The decision merely affirmed the authority of the DEA to close the Oakland co-op.

Thank you for your continuing support for the medical use of marijuana. The Playboy Foundation has pushed for sensible marijuana policies since the early Seventies.

Clint Werner
San Francisco, California

Kuipers describes a terrible situation in California. What most Americans do not realize is that this is just another inglorious chapter in the government's efforts to change the war on drugs into a war on physicians and their patients. The last drug czar threatened to punish doctors who recommended marijuana to their patients, even in the context of the patient-doctor relationship. These efforts were quashed by a federal judge, but not until Jesse Helms introduced to the Senate a bill requiring that any physician who suggested or even discussed the use of marijuana, even to patients who were terminally ill, be confined in a federal prison for up to eight years. The bill didn't pass, but it points out that fanatics are not just in the Middle East.

Dr. J. Thomas Ungerleider
Los Angeles, California

The writer, a professor emeritus of psychiatry at the UCLA Medical Center, was appointed by President Nixon to the National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse.

For 17 years, Robin Prosser has battled an immunosuppressive disorder. She suffers from nausea and migraines. She describes her condition as "almost like being dead, and conscious of it." Seven years ago, following a 16-hour stretch of vomiting, Prosser was given a small amount of marijuana by a friend. It made her feel better than any of the oodles of pills she had popped. She joined pro-cannabis groups fighting to make marijuana legal in Montana. After the pot clubs were raided in California, and after those awful September 11 drug ads accused marijuana users of helping terrorists, she noticed that the movement to legalize marijuana quieted down. So she took a drastic measure to return attention to the cause—she stopped eating. As I write this, she has ingested only liquids and vitamins for 59 days. She says she won't eat until she is given the OK by the local district attorney to grow

medical marijuana. You can read more about her plight at cannabisnow.org.

Brad Willis
Oviedo, Florida

We e-mailed Prosser to find out how she was doing. She wrote: "I hurt all the time; with cannabis I hurt a little less. Many people don't realize that the U.S. government grows this plant and distributes 300 joints monthly to seven people who years ago were approved to receive it. Meanwhile, it tells the rest of us we are supporters of terrorism. I ask only to be allowed to live without pain."

OFFICIAL NUDES

It's easy to blame John Ashcroft for covering the statues in the Great Hall ("Cover Up!" *The Playboy Forum*, June). But according to the *National Review*, he didn't ask that they be covered. Without consulting the attorney general, an aide decided to buy the drapes, which are used to create a better background for TV cameras, rather than continue to rent them. Funny how the liberal media chose not to praise a cost-saving measure in Washington.

David Bozeman
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Here's a cost-saver: No drapes!

CHILD SUPPORT

In June you wrote in *Newsfront* about the man who donated sperm to a lesbian couple and then was required to pay child support ("No Escape," *The Playboy Forum*). Here's an item that tops it: In 1992 in Eastwood, England, a 21-year-old woman twice slept with a 15-year-old boy. She became pregnant but kept this from him. Six years later, needing money, she asked the government to require the boy, now an adult, to pay child support. Although the woman had broken the law by sleeping with a minor, the man expects he will have to give up a third of his salary.

Nigel Taylor
Birmingham, UK

We would like to hear your point of view. Send questions, opinions and quirky stuff to The Playboy Forum, PLAYBOY, *680 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60611, e-mail forum@playboy.com or fax 312-951-2939. Please include a daytime phone number and your city and state or province.*

IN GOD WE TRUST

By ROBERT S. WIEDER

The American Family Association has been campaigning for years to get our national motto, In God We Trust, posted in every public school, library, auditorium and cafeteria in the land (it's already on every coin in your pocket). So far, only Mississippi has mandated the practice, evidently in an effort to make up for Tennessee's having gotten the Scopes trial. Two years ago the U.S. House put in its two cents by passing a nonbinding resolution calling for the motto to be displayed in public buildings. Nervous airport travelers or hospital patients may not be comforted.

The AFA's campaign has recently taken on new vigor. Laws requiring that the motto be added to school walls are in the works in Arizona, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, New Jersey, South Carolina, Utah and Virginia; Michigan has joined Mississippi in passing one. The frenzy is the result of a curious assumption by politicians that In God We Trust is not just patriotic (at a time when no patriotic gesture must go unmade) but is an appropriate response to domestic attack—a defiant group cheer when the terrorists yell "*Allah akbar!*" Indeed, in several states the motto is specifically included in homeland security legislation, presumably as insurance in the event more strident defenses fail.

Those pushing the phrase as an official cheer finesse the church-and-state issue by claiming that In God We Trust isn't a religious statement (despite the fact it's 25 percent God) but is actually a founding principle and therefore benignly bureaucratic. After all, they point out, it's our national motto.

True, but there's nothing founding about it. The nation's original motto was *E Pluribus Unum*, which is Latin for "Out of Many, One" and makes sense for a democratic republic. It remained the motto until 1956, when a cold war Congress replaced it with In God We Trust. In the words of Colorado Republican Bob Schaffer, one of the sponsors of the recent House resolution, the new motto united us as a people and made us into the greatest country on the planet. (That and a whole lot of bombs.) If In God We Trust unites us, how can it also infuriate so many Americans who don't want their kids subjected to religious sentiments at school? No one filed any federal lawsuits over *E Pluribus Unum*.

To those who believe In God We Trust is a bedrock truth, a few questions: Why bother with homeowners' insurance? Why pay for health insurance? Why lock your car? Why vaccinate your kids? And to George W. Bush, who's second to none when it comes to trusting God, why ask for a $370 billion defense budget?

However much we may trust in God, we still shuffle the cards, count our change, own a handgun (or several), get flu shots and otherwise cover our asses on every secular level. In public schools, that means absorbing sufficient knowledge to be employable. Post In God We Trust in the average classroom and you've offered an alternative to studying—the last choice kids need. It may be our nation's motto, but it's also the adage of those who scoff at condoms, drive Ford Explorers, load their 401(k)s with company stock and bet on the Chicago Cubs. And that is why it doesn't belong on classroom walls.

NEWSFRONT

what's happening in the sexual and social arenas

THONG TEST

RANCHO BERNARDO, CALIFORNIA—*As she guarded the entrance to a school dance, a vice principal at Rancho Bernardo High lifted skirts to make sure none of*

the girls were wearing thongs. The vice principal said she wanted to prevent them from exposing their buttocks while dirty dancing, which she felt might lead to a disruption. "This is a safety issue," she said. The school placed her on leave.

POT THERAPY

EL DORADO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA—*An elementary school student had a serious behavioral disorder. A pediatrician suggested marijuana therapy, and the boy improved dramatically (he takes a daily lunchtime dose of marijuana in capsule form). A year later the eight-year-old was ready to return to public school, but the school refused to dispense his pills. A state law allows only the primary caregiver or the patient to possess medical marijuana. When the boy's mother asked if he could take the capsules himself, the school said no, citing its zero-tolerance drug policy. The solution? Each day at noon the boy's mother drives to the school, escorts him off campus and gives him the pills.*

TOUCH FOUL

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA—*During a lecture, a University of Virginia law professor told his class that a person may be legally responsible for damage resulting from even the slightest touch. To illustrate his point, he touched a student on the shoulder. Six months later she filed suit, demanded $35,000 in damages. The student says the professor's gesture triggered trauma from a childhood rape. "She didn't know what he was doing or how far he would go," her lawyer said. "He brought to the surface her vulnerability to men with authority and power."*

DNA SURPRISES

NORFOLK, MASSACHUSETTS—*In 1983 a man raped a woman for eight hours. Police arrested her neighbor Benjamin LaGuer and a jury convicted him. LaGuer later discovered that police had lifted four sets of fingerprints in the victim's apartment, none of which matched his. They also had preserved semen evidence. The inmate's supporters raised $30,000 to have DNA testing done. This past March, the results came back—and identified LaGuer as the attacker. He still maintains his innocence, saying police must have taken semen from his underwear in 1983 and added it to the samples.*

BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS—*After pleading with authorities to run a DNA test that he said would exonerate him for a 1999 rape, Marshall Thomas got his wish. However, the test identified him as the attacker—and also tied him to an earlier rape. A judge gave him 25 years.*

FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA—*Convicted of a 1989 rape, James Harvey fought to have DNA testing of the evidence. This past May, it confirmed he had committed the crime. His attorney, Peter Neufeld, cofounder of the Innocence Project at Cardozo Law School, says about 50 percent of conclusive postconviction tests have confirmed trial verdicts. Neufeld said he could only speculate why a guilty man would ask for testing, but that in many cases it may be because the inmate lies about his innocence to his family, who pushes for it.*

EXCHANGE RATE

CHAMPLAIN, NEW YORK—*A Montreal man crossed the border and robbed a bank of $32,538. After police arrested him in upstate New York, he pleaded guilty in exchange for a seven-year sentence. But before his sentencing, the man fired his court-appointed attorney and demanded a better deal. "At current exchange rates, my Canadian criminal record is only worth 62 percent of an American criminal," he told the judge. "Seven years Canadian is worth four years American."*

SELF-DEFENSE

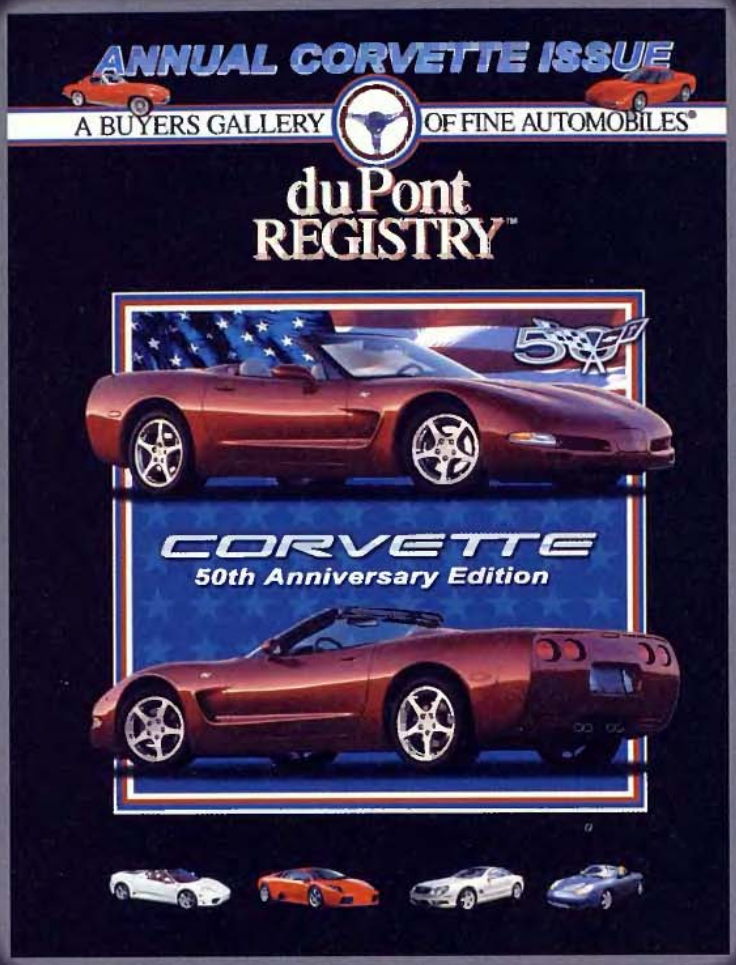
NEWPORT, WASHINGTON—*Joshua Krawiec, 15, loves to fish. He stores his tackle in empty film canisters he retrieves from local photo developers. Last fall police with drug-sniffing dogs visited Newport High and confiscated Krawiec's backpack, saying that one of his canisters contained marijuana residue. Krawiec denied using reefer, and passed a drug test. Undaunted, prosecutors charged him with possession of the canister, which they said qualified as drug paraphernalia. Krawiec did what all good students do—he visited the library, where he learned that mere possession of paraphernalia isn't a crime in Washington. Representing himself, Krawiec pleaded his case to a judge, who dismissed the charge.*

TALL ORDER

WASHINGTON, D.C.—*After a giraffe died at the National Zoo, a reporter asked officials if she could see its medical history. The zoo director refused, arguing that re-*

leasing the records would violate the dead giraffe's right to privacy—the one it apparently enjoyed when not being watched in its cage by tourists. The director said the doctor-patient relationship applies in principle to zookeepers and animals.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY KEVIN POPE



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PLAYBOY INTERVIEW: LARRY ELLISON

a candid conversation with software's toughest s.o.b. about the techno bust, the wisdom of a national identity card and the truth about his archenemy, bill gates

Larry Ellison, the fifth-richest man in the world and chief executive officer of Oracle, the second-largest software company after Microsoft, is in the news again. He is ranting on Chris Matthews' Hardball show on MSNBC. Things have changed since the days of Thomas Jefferson, Ellison says, especially after September 11. The nation needs a voluntary national ID card, and Oracle will donate the database software to run such a system. "Privacy is an illusion," he insists.

Ellison later makes local headlines when he moves his Gulfstream V jet from San Jose International Airport, despite his court victory overturning what he called the airport's "wacky" curfew laws, which he routinely ignored. He maintained that his jet's BMW Rolls Royce BR 710 turbofan engines were quieter than those of many smaller jets with no such curfew, but he moved the jet to another airport nonetheless.

When Ellison addresses a crowded room of Wall Street analysts at Oracle's headquarters in Redwood Shores, California, it does not take long to see that he has his own agenda. He disses competitors' products (IBM's new database is "a real piece of crap," he says) and lambastes his archnemesis, Bill Gates (a "convicted monopolist"). Ellison even attacks the analysts themselves. Referring to a list of companies that took off during the dot-com craze but are now in or near bankruptcy, Ellison says, "You guys recommended their stocks, and you think I'm stupid?"

It's all business as usual for Larry Ellison, who is famous for excess and not known for his modesty. (A biography about him is titled The Difference Between God and Larry Ellison. The answer: God doesn't think he's Larry Ellison.)

For a few days in 2000, when Oracle's stock, a bellwether on the Nasdaq, was racing, Ellison was the richest man in the world. This year, after the crash, he is only number five, according to Forbes' annual tally. His stash is less than those of two Microsoft billionaires (Gates and Paul Allen) but more than the wealth of Kirk Kerkorian, George Soros, Michael Bloomberg and Ross Perot combined.

An impressive sum by any standards, the money is actually one of the least interesting things about Ellison. He has built a formidable company from scratch. He is both loved and loathed by those who work or have worked for him. He is a jet-setter who actually flies his own jet and has the ear of presidents. Like Ted Turner before him, he is determined to win the America's Cup race, and he plans to spend $161 million to do it. Ellison, who Steve Jobs has called "the outrageous CEO poster child," is nearing completion of a $40 million mansion built in the style of a 16th century imperial Japanese residence.

Ellison, 58, founded Oracle in 1977 after working for a number of California technology companies. He read a white paper from IBM that presented what was then a new concept, a relational database. Database technology was already ubiquitous, but whereas a database stores volumes of information in one place, a relational database links many libraries of data. It allows, for example, customer orders to be coupled to inventory and factory output, and a personnel department's hiring records to 401(k) balances. It sounds obvious now, but it was a radical idea at the time and IBM had rejected it. Ellison, along with two partners, left their jobs to found a company based on the idea. Earlier, Ellison had created a database for the CIA code-named Oracle, and he borrowed that as the name for his start-up.

His long-shot bet paid off. Now most companies rely on relational databases, and almost all of those are made by Oracle. In 1986 the company went public, days before Microsoft. Since then, Oracle's stock has shot up 41,000 percent. Even though Microsoft's main product lines are for personal computers and Oracle's are for companies, Ellison

"Microsoft's products are mediocre and don't need to be anything more—we have no choice. What other word processor can you use? It's like the good old days of the Soviet Union. There's no competition."

"A handful of people are so concerned about protecting themselves from the government they've made it impossible for the government to protect the rest of us. I'm more worried about Al Qaeda than I am the Republicans."

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BART NAGEL

"When you don't have a close relationship with your parents, it colors your personality. If you don't get unconditional love early, you have a great void in your life. You get very good at trying to earn the love of others."

has said he will not be content until Oracle replaces Microsoft as the world's largest software company. (Analysts say that's not likely to happen anytime soon.) Ellison's attacks on Microsoft escalated when the Justice Department began its investigation of Gates' company. When Ellison discovered that the Redmond giant was trying to influence public opinion by funding pro-Microsoft "consumer groups," he hired private investigators to go after the firm. Searching through Microsoft's garbage, they found evidence that Microsoft made payments to the supposedly independent groups.

In the Nineties, Oracle had its own accounting scandal, which almost destroyed the company. "Oracle is run by adolescents, and that includes me," Ellison said at the time. Oracle recovered and grew steadily through 1997, when it branched out beyond databases into the $20 billion applications software market.

While Oracle is still unchallenged as the database leader, it suffered in the technology crash of 2001 and has been slower to recover than other companies. There is mounting competition in the crowded applications business, and Oracle has had a series of bad quarters this year. Oracle has also been in the news recently because the California state's attorney general is investigating a donation the company made to Governor Gray Davis around the same time Oracle won a large contract from the state. Both the company and the governor have denied wrongdoing. Oracle, meanwhile, remains a powerhouse. At the peak of the dot-com bubble, the company had billboards boasting that 93 percent of dot-coms ran on Oracle software. Its database is still used by almost every large company, from American Airlines to Sara Lee to Pacific Bell. With Ellison firmly at Oracle's helm, its income tops $10 billion a year.

According to his biographers, Ellison's obsessive nature may be an attempt to prove his worth to the man who raised him. Ellison never knew his real father and his unwed mother gave him to an aunt and uncle. (The family name was given to them when they arrived at Ellis Island from Europe.) His adoptive father, an auditor, once told Ellison, "You'll never amount to anything."

Ellison learned computer programming in high school and enrolled at, and dropped out of, the University of Illinois and then the University of Chicago. In the early Seventies he moved to California to work for PC companies such as Ampex. After he founded Oracle, Ellison's notoriety grew along with the company and his personal fortune. Part of it was his conspicuous consumption and his personal adventures. He tried to buy a Russian MiG fighter for $20 million. He broke his arm in 28 places in a biking accident. He nearly died surfing. He also nearly died in a December 1998 boat race. With a crew of 23, he sailed his 80-foot yacht, Sayonara, in a 630-mile race from Australia to Tasmania. En route, the boats ran into a hurricane that generated 50-foot waves. Six sailors drowned. But Ellison is going back for more. He plans to win the America's Cup by sailing two boats outfitted with top-secret technology. Hundreds of monitors on the boats will send data to a central system every second. The numbers will be crunched by computers and the boats' captains will be advised how to proceed.

Ellison's personal life has been stormy, too. He's been married three times, and Fortune has called him the "playboy of the wired world." There are websites by women obsessed with him. He fought back against an Oracle employee who accused him of threatening her job if she wouldn't have sex with him. She was convicted of perjury and falsifying evidence. Ellison recently announced his plans to marry novelist Melanie Craft.

Ellison is more private about his sizable charitable efforts. He gives away hundreds of millions of dollars to charities and smaller amounts to political candidates. His main interest is in biotechnology, and he donates about $100 million a year to the pursuit, largely through Quark, his biotech company, and the Ellison Medical Foundation, which has contributed $250 million to fight infectious diseases in Africa.

When PLAYBOY *decided to interview Ellison, we tapped Contributing Editor* **David Sheff** *for the assignment. Sheff, whose past subjects have included technology leaders Steve Jobs and Jeff Bezos, met with Ellison at Oracle's corporate headquarters. Here's his report:*

Microsoft is the most ruthless company around. And they are talented. However, it will be difficult for them to own the Internet.

"Ellison has a decidedly varied reputation as a manager. While he can rally his troops with passion and uncommon leadership practices—he once awarded gold ingots to employees—he is said to have a brutal side, too. He is 'infamous for cavalier firings,' according to Forbes, having 'burned through 10 top lieutenants.' Some of them have gone on to found competing companies. Thomas Siebel of Siebel Systems has said, 'Ellison has a knack for taking the best and brightest and then he tries to destroy them.' Craig Conway, chief executive of Peoplesoft, refers to him this way: 'When you alienate everybody, you become someone no one wants to play with.'

"The press might see Ellison as a flamboyant-raconteur-daredevil-heartless-playboy boss, but I found him to be sincere, thoughtful and fiercely bright, with strong and complex opinions on issues as diverse as health care, education and Japanese gardens. Most surprising, he was warm and self-effacing. The interview began just as the nation's economy was showing signs of life after dipping into a recession. It seemed like the logical time to begin an interview with one of America's most important business leaders."

PLAYBOY: After the tech crash and recession, what is your prognosis for the economy?

ELLISON: I'm wildly optimistic.

PLAYBOY: Even after the recent corrections we've seen?

ELLISON: Yes. I've seen the madness before. I knew that the dot-com thing was madness.

PLAYBOY: Oracle did well by it, though.

ELLISON: We enjoyed that wave on the way up, and I admit that it has been less fun on the way down. But dot-coms represented 18 percent of our business. Most of our companies are not ephemeral. General Electric, Deutsche Bank, Sony—they aren't disappearing. I knew that many of the dot-coms would. A little less than a couple years ago, a tiny company called Ariba, which enabled you to log on to your personal computer and issue a purchase request, was worth more than all of Daimler-Chrysler. A company that brought groceries to your house was worth more than the largest supermarket chain in the United States. When I was a kid, someone delivered milk, eggs and sour cream to our house, but that service couldn't compete with supermarkets; it's expensive to load the milk into the truck and hand deliver it. So what's changed? You still need trucks. You still need delivery people. Instead of filling out a sheet of paper to place your order, you type it into a computer, which is actually more expensive. It's bizarre. A company that delivered Kitty Litter was considered an idea so grand that there were many such companies. In retrospect, it all looks absurd. But everyone believed it while it was happening. At the height of the craze, with a couple friends I started a website called HeyIdiot.com. We sold only one product: HeyIdiot.com stock. The plan was to auction it off. You had to bid higher than the previous price, so everyone would become wildly wealthy. The scheme was explained at the HeyIdiot.com website. The horrifying thing was that we got messages from people: "This site doesn't work. We're trying to buy the stock and it's not working." We got a call from a guy who wanted to buy our website name. He thought that in itself was worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. More madness.

PLAYBOY: Was the hype surrounding the Internet itself a form of madness?

ELLISON: Any new technology brings a certain euphoria. I asked Michael Dell how many PC companies there were in the U.S. at the height of that craze. I said, "There must have been at least 50." He said, "Fifty? There were 500." Now there are Compaq and HP, which have merged, Dell, Gateway, Apple and IBM—five or six. A couple of them, including IBM, aren't even making money with PCs. The number will probably decline

further. Every new technology inspires hundreds of companies that will manage to survive. In the case of the Internet, it was thousands.

PLAYBOY: But the Internet was pitched as a force that would change life as we know it. Was that hype, too?

ELLISON: No. The Internet is the most important new technology since the telephone. Just because companies have failed doesn't mean the Internet will fail. The Internet is more popular and more broadly used than ever.

PLAYBOY: What is the most important change heralded by the Net?

ELLISON: Unbelievably cheap global communication. I can send any form of data from here to Beijing for next to nothing. Data can be anything: numbers, words, pictures, movies, music, live communication. The implications of that are far more profound than any one of us can fathom. At a certain point, we bet Oracle's future on the Internet, switching our products from ones that were based on client servers [high-end stand-alone computers] to ones based on the Net. It was a risk, but now every technology company I know of has given up on the old model. Even Microsoft has come aboard, though they call it .Net, their own version of the Internet. They gave it its own name and are trying to make it proprietary, which is what they always do.

PLAYBOY: Might they succeed?

ELLISON: They have no chance whatsoever. Almost every company is building applications on Internet standards as opposed to Microsoft standards. Microsoft is late to the party. That doesn't mean they won't keep making a lot of money selling Office and Windows, but they are having a difficult time co-opting the Internet and converting it into the Microsoft version of the Internet. Microsoft, if they could, would co-opt English. We would be speaking to each other in MS English—Bill's English. Bill would explain why MS English is better than English and he'd make it available to everyone at a very low cost. By the time he finished talking, a dollar for Microsoft per conversation would seem reasonable. To have this conversation, we'd have to send Bill a dollar.

PLAYBOY: Is it dangerous to underestimate Gates?

ELLISON: Microsoft is the most ruthless company around. And they are talented. I would never underestimate them. However, it will be difficult for them to own the Internet. They own the PC because they invented it. Well, Apple really invented it, but Microsoft created its own version. It may have been called the IBM PC, but it was owned by Microsoft and Intel. In one of the most gracious acts in the history of business, IBM decided to be the marketer of the first Microsoft Intel PC. What a gift to those two companies. Microsoft's and Intel's market values suggest it was a gift of a trillion dollars in market valuation. Those two companies should certainly send IBM cards during the holidays. It was the biggest mistake in the history of commerce.

PLAYBOY: Will Microsoft and Intel retain their lock on PCs?

ELLISON: Yes, though PCs will become less important, at least in terms of connecting to the Internet. There will be many devices attached to the Net. Your car will be a two-way transmission device to the Internet. You'll send and receive messages on your telephone. According to some, the next big thing will be cameras built into telephones. Japan may start sending pictures over the phone, but most other people won't. I do believe we'll be sending messages, automatically receiving changes in our calendars and the like.

PLAYBOY: For a while it looked as if the Justice Department might break up or otherwise punish Microsoft. Now it seems less likely. What's your view?

ELLISON: The fallout remains to be seen. The court found that Microsoft routinely broke antitrust laws. The company was found guilty, even after it appealed the original ruling. The only thing that remains for the government to do is decide how to penalize Microsoft. The latest idea is that rather than penalize them, they should be rewarded.

PLAYBOY: How does the proposal reward Microsoft?

ELLISON: One of the few markets that Microsoft doesn't yet have is the education market. The government is now saying, "Microsoft broke the law but didn't get all of the money. They dropped a bag or two on the way out of the bank. If we give them all the money, they will have no reason to rob banks anymore and the problem will be solved."

PLAYBOY: You're referring to the remedy that would have Microsoft give free software to schools.

ELLISON: Yes, and thereby make Microsoft a standard in America's schools, too—the one place Apple has beaten them. Why not just wipe Apple off the face of the earth? But it's not the end of the story. Now that Microsoft has been found guilty by the court, the company is subject to a bunch of civil lawsuits. Microsoft erased Netscape—as good as destroyed the most innovative company in the Silicon Valley of the Nineties. As a result, Netscape is suing Microsoft in civil court. I believe Netscape, now owned by AOL, will win tens of billions of dollars in damages—and Netscape won't be the only one.

PLAYBOY: Can you pinpoint when your battle with Microsoft become personal between you and Bill Gates?

ELLISON: Actually, Bill and I used to be friends.

PLAYBOY: So what changed?

ELLISON: I began to intensely dislike him when I learned about his behavior toward Netscape. Here was this incredibly innovative small company, and the largest, most powerful technology company in the world—arguably. Gates wasn't satisfied until he wiped them out. And he did so by breaking the law. He tried to force Compaq not to ship Netscape. He threatened people not to do business with Netscape. He destroyed Netscape, and consumers are paying the price.

PLAYBOY: How are we paying?

ELLISON: We pay the price in the lack of alternative products. Remember there used to be a PC software industry? There were companies like Lotus, Harvard Graphics, Ashton Tate. No longer. If you want PC software, you wait until Microsoft builds it and you pay whatever they demand. Microsoft products are mediocre and don't need to be anything more—we have no choice. What other word processor can you use? What other spreadsheet? What other presentation graphics application? What other operating system? It's like the good old days of the Soviet Union. Without competition, there were high prices and terrible products. Our public schools are disasters for the same reason: There's no competition. If there's no competition for your word processor, there's really no reason to make a better or cheaper word processor.

PLAYBOY: Your own tactics in going after Microsoft have been called into question, particularly when you hired private detectives who went through the company's garbage.

ELLISON: I began hearing about certain groups that support Microsoft. One was called the Independent Institute. Its line was, "Anything that hurts Microsoft hurts America. Microsoft is a national asset. You wouldn't want to damage Microsoft, because they're a big exporter and a national treasure. Please, God, don't hurt Microsoft and America." Well I'm an American. I don't want to do anything against America. My God, I may have to rethink my position! But who are these people at the Independent Institute? I'm curious. How about Americans for Competitive Technology, another pro-Microsoft group? I'm an American. I think that we should have competitive technology. I wanted to know who these people were.

PLAYBOY: How did you find out?

ELLISON: We found out, but the question was, how could we prove it? That's why we hired private investigators. I didn't know they were going to go through Bill's garbage, but that doesn't bother me at all. I wouldn't want to go through garbage personally, because I'm wearing a very expensive suit. But we wanted to disclose the truth. Going through Microsoft's garbage, the investigators found evidence linking Microsoft to the Independent Institute. We then turned those documents over to the media. We thought the American people should know. It's totally legal to go through people's garbage, by the way. If Microsoft wanted to deceive the American people and not get caught, they should have bought a few more shredders.

PLAYBOY: Is there a moral lesson about Bill Gates' success? Does crime, if not ruthlessness, pay?

ELLISON: The story's not over. Microsoft could have beaten Netscape without breaking the law, and Microsoft would be a more powerful company today if they had engaged in competition with Netscape that was legal. They almost were broken up. If Thomas Penfield Jackson, the original judge in the case, had not made a few statements to the press, Microsoft would be two or three or even four companies right now.

PLAYBOY: Is a lot of your view sour grapes?

ELLISON: No. Is AOL's suit against Microsoft sour grapes? We will aggressively compete with any company. We have aggressive competition with IBM. But IBM, to the best of our knowledge, operates entirely within the law. So do we. When we compete with Microsoft, however, it's gloves off because of the way that they have operated.

PLAYBOY: How do you think Gates would respond to you?

ELLISON: Gates believes he's done nothing wrong. He thinks the rules don't apply to him. Like Milo Minderbinder in *Catch-22*, he really believes what's good for Microsoft is good for America.

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PLAYBOY: Is it true that you love a fight?

ELLISON: I love to compete, whether racing a sailboat or selling a piece of software. The selling part isn't so interesting, but building a faster sailboat, a better database, better applications, is. If you build better products, most of the time you win, but not always. Apple found that out from Microsoft. Though I feel a special glee when it comes to beating Microsoft, I really don't think about our competitors. When we have trouble, it's usually self-inflicted. We have had some product problems—products late for the market, bugs. We are an engineering company. We live or die by the quality of our products. There's no way we could compete with a company like Microsoft or IBM if their database was better than our database. So we have to engineer better products.

PLAYBOY: Can size wind up hurting you, though? Technology companies have to be nimble, fast-moving.

ELLISON: Really? How has it turned out? The smaller companies—Commerce One, Ariba—are not going to survive. Look at our database competitors. Ingress? Gone. Informix is gone. Sybase doesn't matter. Technology is going the same way as the car industry. People don't believe it, but there is going to be a handful of large technology competitors. The idea that the software and computer industries are going to be forever young is fanciful. One of the reasons our database is so good is that we've had long-term competitions with Sybase, Informix, Ingress and now IBM and Microsoft. We've always been an extremely competitive market. If that doesn't keep you alert, nothing will. We're also in a very competitive market in the enterprise software business. We just entered the e-mail business, a brand-new business for us, and it's dominated by Microsoft. The problem with Microsoft's e-mail is its fragility. Our e-mail does not break. Microsoft's does. Microsoft's e-mail server is really a virus exchange. Microsoft's idea of how you handle viruses is: "You know that e-mail you got yesterday? Don't open it. It has a virus in it." When we discover a virus we simply delete it from the server so you can't get to it. Post–September 11, people are much more sensitive about security and terrorism, whether physical or cyber. We have the answers built in.

PLAYBOY: Since September 11 you have also been the chief proponent of a national ID card to help combat terrorism. What led to that idea?

ELLISON: There's a global database to keep track of how much you earn, where you work, how much your car payment is, what magazines you subscribe to, what your bank balance is, what your last raise was, whether you're married, not married, divorced, how much you pay in alimony. But there's nothing that reveals whether you might be a suspected terrorist. It's a no-brainer.

PLAYBOY: But the price is even less privacy than we have now.

ELLISON: Which isn't much. You've given it all up already. In exchange for what? A credit card. You have given up your personal privacy to make it easier when you go to the mall. Should we give up a little more privacy to save the lives of our families? Should the government create one of these databases to keep all of this information about us? Can we trust our government? You trust Bank of America, but do you trust your government?

PLAYBOY: But you participate in the decision to trust Bank of America.

ELLISON: I'm not for mandatory IDs. I want a national standard for IDs, but they should not be required for most people. If you decide to drive, you need an ID. All I've come out for is a standard for existing driver's licenses, pilot's licenses, voter registration cards, social security cards and the like. I want to make them much more difficult to forge and duplicate so people can't go around stealing our identities. My pilot's license is much easier to duplicate than an American Express card. Anyone with a color laser printer can copy it. If you want a pilot's license, before you leave here today, I'll make you one. No problem. The point is that we take credit much more

seriously than national security. I want to use credit card technology and a single merged database. The FBI would probably be the best place to keep that information. If the states and FBI had had a linked database, we probably would have caught half of the terrorists boarding those airliners. They were wanted: They were in the country illegally, overstayed their visas, had an outstanding arrest warrant or something else. The airlines had no way of knowing they had sold tickets to terrorists.

PLAYBOY: The counterargument is that by giving away our freedom or privacy, the terrorists have in some ways won.

ELLISON: [*Exaggerated*] "Surely they will have won!" You have to be kidding. Are you more interested in stopping a little credit card fraud or saving lives? Now who's won? Civil libertarians are off-base here. It's mind-boggling how much we don't trust our government. Everyone is quoting Ben Franklin: "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." Remember that Franklin lived in this country 200 years ago, when the world was dominated by aristocrats and kings. The big risk to folks like you and me were that these aristocrats and kings were going to take away our rights. I don't know the last time I saw an aristocratic king running around the U.S., threatening to take away our house or dog. The risks today are from terrorists who get their hands on nuclear weapons and vaporize a million or 2 million people. Should we sacrifice some of our privacy to make that more difficult? A handful of people are so concerned about protecting themselves from the government they've made it impossible for the government to protect the rest of us. I'm quite a bit more worried about Al Qaeda than I am the Republicans. And I'm a Democrat. The fact is, we live in a dangerous world, and we can't pay enough for good information. Think about the calamities around the turn of the millennium that were prevented by intelligence agencies. Can such intelligence be abused? Absolutely. Everything can be. The cave person who invented fire went around saying it would keep caves warm and cook food, but someone was out there worrying about arson. Technology is agnostic. Information is agnostic. It can be used inappropriately, but by and large, our government has a damn good record of using information and behaving well in its 200 years. I would rather trust our government to protect us than rely on blind luck. Otherwise we can hope that the Michigan Militia protects us against Al Qaeda. I think we'd be better off relying on the Marines.

PLAYBOY: Which politicians understand technology? Who doesn't?

ELLISON: I was a big fan of Bill Clinton's and I'm happy with the current administration. I'm a lifelong Democrat, but I was not a supporter of Al Gore.

PLAYBOY: Do you know President Bush?

ELLISON: I met him when I was deciding who I would support. I had about an hour with him. I'd heard all of these people say, "George Bush isn't very smart," but he is bright, determined and focused, certainly every bit as much as Al Gore. I didn't find huge differences in their intellects. Bill Clinton, on the other hand, is an extraordinary human being. People talk a lot about his flaws, but he is truly gifted. Very few people have Bill Clinton's intellect.

PLAYBOY: Did you get to know Clinton personally?

ELLISON: Absolutely. I went nightclubbing with him recently in New Orleans. There is no better person. If you were able to pick a president in the past 50 years to hang out with, he's the one.

PLAYBOY: How successful was his presidency in your view?

ELLISON: It's appalling to me that the Democrats, supposedly the champions of Latinos, were against Nafta. Clinton pushed it through, and it's behind the economic miracle that's occurring south of the Rio Grande. He can be proud of that. He contributed enormously to solving the 500-year-old problem in Northern Ireland. It may lead to a successful resolution. The 2000-year-old problem in the Middle East seems to have exceeded even his enormous talent.

PLAYBOY: What's your take on Senator Clinton?

ELLISON: I know Hillary, but not well. She's incredibly bright but an extremely different personality from Bill.

PLAYBOY: Would you support her for president?

ELLISON: It depends who she were running against. If she were running against Colin Powell, I would support him.

PLAYBOY: We know what you think of Bill Gates. On the other side, who are the business leaders you most respect?

ELLISON: What Jack Welch did with General Electric was astonishing. Andy Grove at Intel. Steve Jobs. Steve reached out with one strong arm and kept Apple from falling into the abyss. People ask how much difference one person can make. Steve Jobs answers that question. Apple under Gil Amelio, with many of the same people underneath him, was a disaster. Winston Churchill once referred to the British army as "lions led by donkeys." You can have lions throughout your organization, but it's a disaster if donkeys are on the top. No leader by himself can completely make a company, but a leader can destroy it.

PLAYBOY: You've been accused of being cavalier in firing people, bullying them.

ELLISON: The opposite is true. When Oracle ran into trouble in 1991, we'd had people in place for too long. We should have changed management long before we did. Until 1991, I was reluctant to fire anybody. It was painful. I don't know anybody who likes to fire people.

PLAYBOY: But you have and do.

ELLISON: One of the most horrible things I've ever done was lay off 500 people at Oracle in 1991. I couldn't come to work. It was traumatic. Because of mistakes I had made or was complicit in, 500 people were losing their jobs. I don't know anyone who likes to lay off or fire people, and I can't imagine being cavalier about it. However, if by removing one person you can keep from laying off a thousand the following year, you have to do it. When we're paying people tens of millions of dollars in a combination of stock, salary and bonus—sometimes hundreds of millions of dollars—and they're doing their jobs badly, they are putting the company at risk. It could lead to a situation where we have to lay off thousands of people. I'd much rather get rid of one executive vice president.

PLAYBOY: Where does your tyrannical image come from?

ELLISON: From a handful of people we fired. Sometimes they sue, sometimes they say bad things.

PLAYBOY: Do you admit you sometimes rule by bullying?

ELLISON: No. You can't rule a successful company by bullying. For the 25 years I have been at Oracle, the only group I have consistently run is engineering. You can't bully those guys. If I try to bully those guys, they'll giggle, get up and leave and get a job that pays 20 percent more in half an hour.

PLAYBOY: What would you say—one CEO to a former CEO—to Ken Lay of Enron?

ELLISON: Enron is an interesting problem. Enron didn't get into trouble because of its energy-trading business, but because it tried to go into all these different businesses—power plants in India, broadband and many other things. Since they were successful in energy trading, they naturally assumed they'd be successful at everything. I know that disease—had it once myself. "My God, I'm one of those gifted people who's good at everything." No, the only thing you've proved is that you're good at one thing. The problem was initially that they thought they had the Midas touch. Then when problems began appearing, they thought if they could conceal them, everything would get better. There was probably never any criminal intent. I don't know for sure, but Enron smells much more like managerial delusion than criminal behavior. The real sad casualty is Arthur Andersen, which is a great firm. The greatest loss of wealth was among the executives at Enron.

PLAYBOY: Tell that to the employees who lost their retirement and savings invested in company stock.

ELLISON: There are many lessons. The biggest is that you shouldn't be able to have all your retirement money in your

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Sex & Sanctity

ONE MAN'S STORY ABOUT RELIGIOUS LIFE AND WHAT SEMINARIES REALLY TEACH ABOUT SEX

By CHARLES J. O'BYRNE

I grew up Catholic, and my earliest ambition was to be a priest. I went to Catholic schools in New Jersey, then to Columbia and Columbia Law School. For several years I worked as a litigator for a Manhattan law firm, always pondering the priesthood. Ultimately, I spent 13 years in religious life, the last four as a Jesuit priest.

I'd had my share of casual sex and two serious relationships when I joined the priesthood. Indeed, the celibacy requirement made me postpone my decision to enter religious life (as did the number of obese, alcoholic and generally depressed middle-aged priests I encountered). Although I regarded celibacy as unnatural and probably unhealthy, the church demanded it, so I eventually decided I was ready to make the sacrifice. To test myself, I abstained from sex for a year before I said goodbye to civilian life.

Once in the seminary, I quickly learned some harsh truths. Many of my classmates in the New York archdiocesan system were exceptionally narrow-minded, and some were out-and-out bigots who made offensive remarks about Jews and Hispanics, among others—all the while uttering pious phrases

ILLUSTRATION BY MARCO VENTURA

about Jesus. I protested, but nothing happened. I protested some more, and then told a friend what was going on. My friend wrote to John Cardinal O'Connor and urged him to investigate what sounded like officially approved hate crimes. With reason to fear a media scandal, the archdiocese pretended to discipline the seminary superior who had coddled the bigots, but in reality it merely shuffled him off to a cushy job. I was expelled from the seminary.

Several months later, I joined the Jesuits and my education continued. One of my first surprises was that many of my classmates—college graduates and former professionals—had had little or no sexual experience. We all were conscious of how important its absence could be. We watched our peers find partners, marry and raise families. Because we didn't wear clerical clothes, we were sometimes seen as being available and were propositioned.

As time went on, however, I became aware that there was sex all around me—including relationships between Jesuits. One of my best friends, a virgin at 30, was surprised when his superior encouraged him to respond to the sexual overtures of an older Jesuit. When another friend fell in love with a woman, the seminary superiors supported his relationship. In theology classes, certain priest-professors even shared information about their sex lives.

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For a while, I was angry. After all, I had enjoyed sex before I entered the religious life and had determined to renounce it. Now people who had never had a sexual experience were having them—with the equivalent of churchly blessings.

Seminary life was hypocritical, but I tried to live with it and called it ambiguity. In fact, I came to believe that living with such contradictions was at the core of our training. Desuetude, an archaic word defined as "the state of being no longer used or practiced," seemed to resolve at least some of the problems about official teachings. Most of my fellow Jesuits hoped that if no one talked about certain rules, they might fall into desuetude and be forgotten. It had happened before—a hamburger on Friday no longer condemned one to eternal suffering.

As we moved closer to ordination, there was a growing awareness of the inane nature of the church's teachings on sexuality and human relations. Anyone using a condom, for example, was doomed to hell. Some classmates decided to leave the seminary. Among those who stayed, few defended the church's stance against certain sexual matters, including gay and straight relationships outside of marriage, contraception and masturbation. Abortion was the one issue on which most of my classmates stood with the church, and many did so vociferously.

During my training I taught at a Catholic girls' high school in the South Bronx. My students were streetwise. They were heroes to me, trying to make something of their lives against unbelievable odds. Most of them were sexually active, by their own accounts. At that time, the rate of HIV infection among babies born at Lincoln Hospital, a stone's throw from the school, was increasing rapidly. I chose to do for my students what the nuns in my school had done for me. I told them that if they were going to have sex, to make sure they did it safely.

But I was unprepared for the question one student, Wanda, asked. "Mr. O'Byrne," she said, "if I have sex with my boyfriend and use birth control, does that mean I'm sinning twice?" I didn't know what to say. Wanda's casuistic thinking belied the absurdity of the church's teaching. I gave her the usual spiel on being careful in relationships and acting maturely and then wrapped it up by saying, "Wanda, forget about the double sin. Just be safe."

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The reality of religious life was often masked from the rest of the world. Seminary life, I realized, could produce some weird characters. There was the clerical professor who ate a quart of ice cream each night before going to bed and kept pictures of his Irish setter and his mother on his desk. There was the drunk who poured vodka into his soda can to hide his constant boozing. And there was the 250-pound assistant rector (who was to judge our worthiness to be priests) who walked around the bedroom floor of our residence in various states of undress, sometimes naked. I also worried about the men we referred to as "boyologists"—priests who were too much into their students or into the seminarians with whom they were living.

Despite my qualms about others' behavior, I was able to realize some of my childhood dreams about the seminary and priesthood. I encountered truly holy individuals when I wasn't studying philosophy and theology. Along the way I earned a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the Vatican. Eventually, I had the opportunity to extend God's forgiveness to penitents in the forum of the confessional. I celebrated mass in churches and nursing facilities and in private homes. I worked hard to help people place the emphasis of their spiritual lives on God's love rather than on God's judgment. I tried to help people make sense of what Rome was saying, sometimes by providing a more comforting interpretation of the rules. For instance, I told one man that I did not think that the sin of "impurity with oneself" was the worst and most serious of the issues he had discussed during a retreat. The man rebuked me, challenged my understanding of the church's teachings and threatened to report me to the cardinal.

Rules and reality often collided. Despite official church pronouncements, for example, my colleagues and I knew there were many gay priests, and that many of them had adult lovers. Sometimes the lovers were priests, too, and sometimes they were laypersons. In most cases such relationships were handled discreetly, but I have been at more than one funeral for a priest where his lover was in the front row.

The fundamental dishonesty of the church's leadership became clear in March, when after months of intense media attention, Rome finally got involved. The church's highest-ranking layman, Joaquin Navarro-Valls, a Spanish psychiatrist and the pope's spokesperson, is a member of the ultra-right Catholic society Opus Dei. Navarro-Valls said that no gay man should be a priest and that the ordinations of gay priests might be invalid.

Not a single cardinal, in the U.S. or elsewhere, spoke out against Navarro-Valls' judgment.

Even before the scandal began, the church's hypocrisy and dim view of human sexuality posed serious problems. The scandal grew worse as new details of alleged sex crimes were revealed. I knew some of the church leaders in the headlines and watched them enact a Nixonian scenario of deceit, denial, disinformation and damage control. In fact, such a reaction was standard operating procedure, at least regarding sex.

Instead of using the crisis to heal, the church leadership became even more hypocritical. A sense of panic reigned when American bishops held their annual meeting in Dallas in June. Under the glare of CNN cameras, they listened to the stories told by victims of abuse. The president of the bishops' conference, Bishop Wilton Gregory, offered an apology to the victims on behalf of the church hierarchy, but his words rang hollow to those who had encountered so much difficulty in getting the bishops to hold this public airing. After a tense and protracted debate, the bishops approved a "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" permanently barring any priest guilty of previously sexually abusing a minor from any public ministerial role.

Despite their efforts, doing what they

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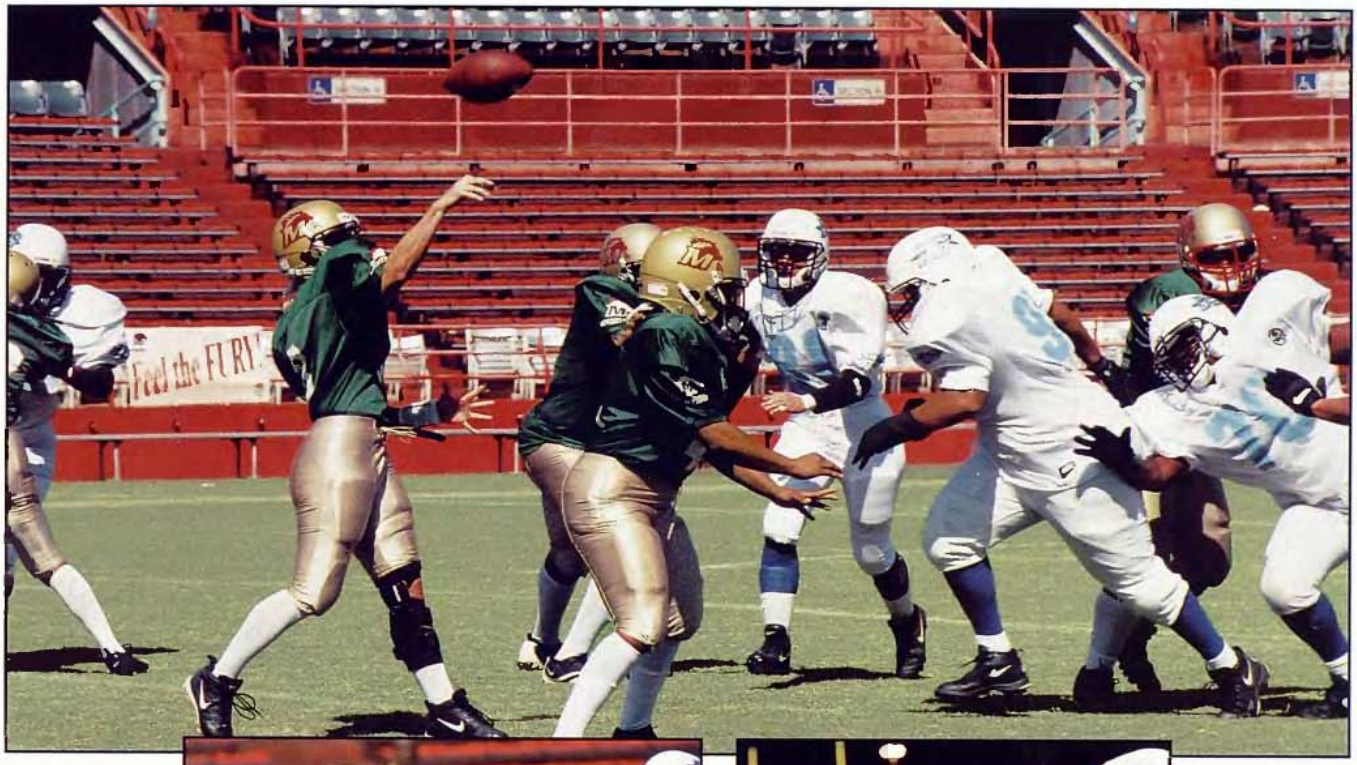
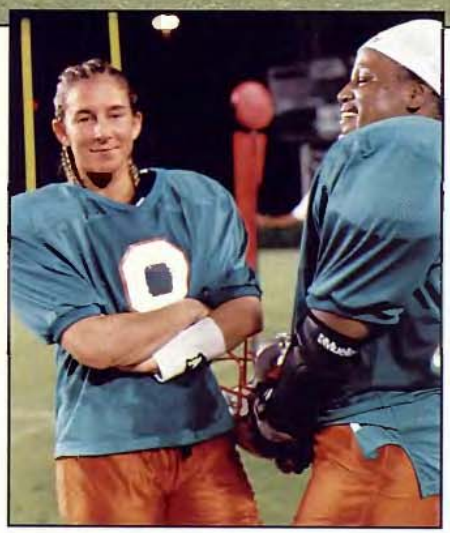
"Don't worry about the neighbors—I'm doing them next."

THE QUARTERBACK IS A *Lady*

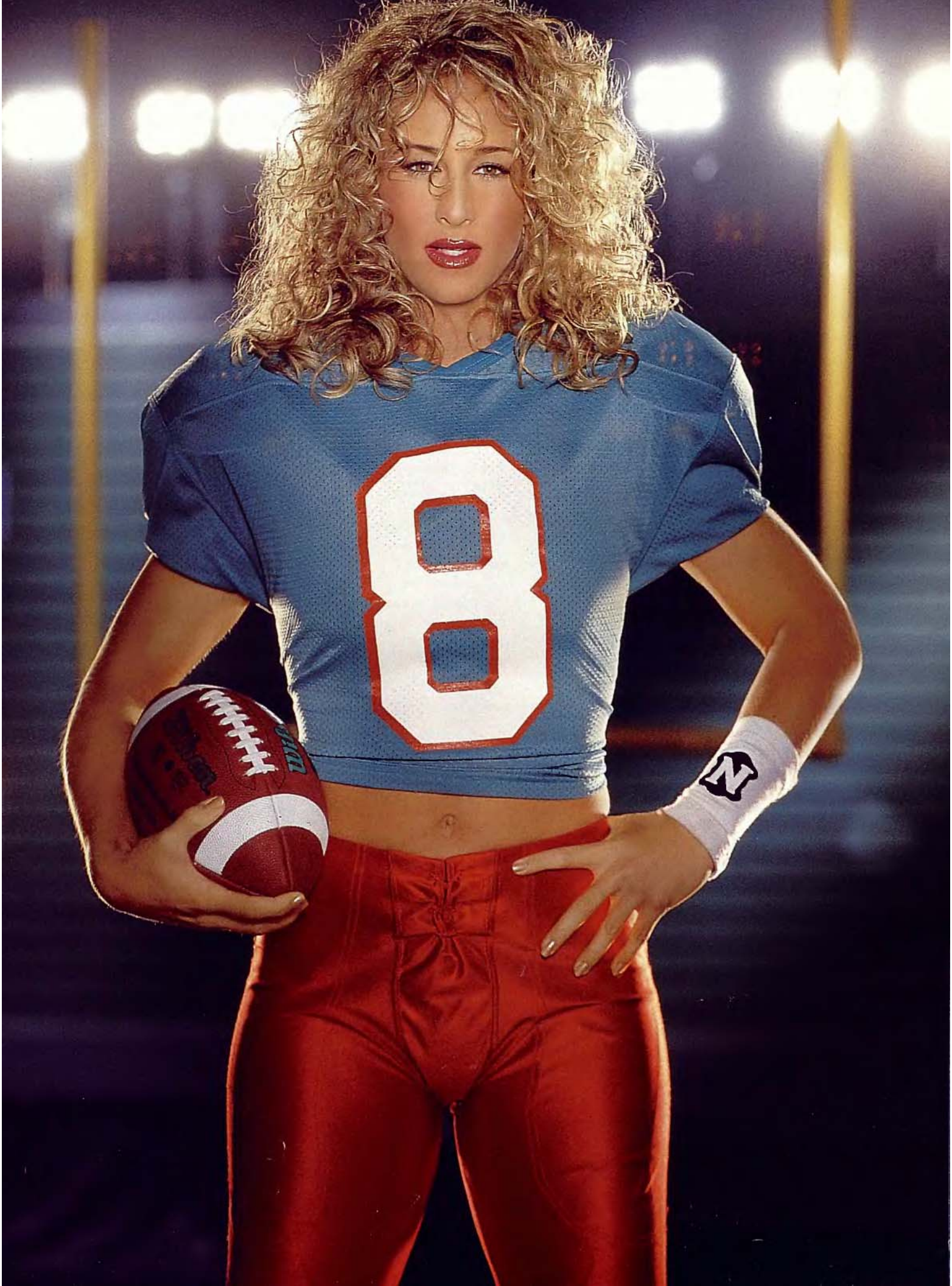




anita marks is no play-action fake

ANITA MARKS RULES the pocket for the Miami Fury, a women's pro team that plays in the Orange Bowl. "As a quarterback, I love to be in a double-slot shotgun. I love to spread the field. I love to send four receivers out and just gun away." Anita's football obsession started early. "I grew up in a neighborhood full of boys," she says. "It was a lot easier for me to put on my sneakers and go out and play football than to get them to come in and play dolls." These days, they'd jump at the chance. Not that she needs to reconcile her life with the whims of boys anymore—there are at least seven women's pro football leagues across the U.S. But even with her spot on Anita is the Ultimate Sports Chick on Fox Sports radio in Miami. She dreams of working *Monday Night Football*. "I want to be the next Melissa Stark or Bonnie Bernstein. I've played this game since I was seven. I know it in and out. There are few women like me—I know what it is to read a defense, to be down by a touchdown with two minutes to go, to have to run a no-huddle offense. This is something that only I can bring to the table."

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEPHEN WAYDA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the feminine Fury, Anita prefers to play with men. "First, it's the level of competition. I also think it's a mental thing. Women are very emotional, and they have a difficult time separating what happens on the field from everyday life. If a guy drops a pass, another player can say, 'Why'd you do that?' and yell at him. But after the game, they'll grab a beer together. If that happens with women, they're still not talking to each other after the game. I love playing sports with men." Getting decked by linebackers, it turns out, is also a good way to get dates. "I have met probably 50 percent of my boyfriends on a football field, basketball court or golf course." Anita recognizes that female athletes are sexy. "They have great muscle tone and strength—and there's beauty in that. The aggression, confidence and competitive nature are sexy, too. There are a lot of sexy attributes in female athletes that set them apart from other women." Anita's job as field general makes her something of a bedroom general as well. "I definitely like to be in control," she says. We're ready for a pep talk. Give us the drill. Call our favorite play? Go deep.

Check out more of Anita at cyber.playboy.com.

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THE PERSONALS

Fiction By RON CARLSON

With That Look You Stole My Heart

BOY SEES GIRL

We met in Price Chopper surplus, by the pallets of macaroni and cheese. Me in the orange flannel shirt with one sleeve, you in that blue dress with the belt. I saw you appreciate the load on my shopping dolly—the five cases of Drizz Ale and the trampoline. You were holding the gag-size Cheese Helper, reading the box with that nerd in the buttondown. When I put one of the steel wheels into your foot, you gave me a look that stole my heart—right as you fainted and went down. You might have heard me say, "That's got to hurt." Anyway, I want to see you again. Lose the cheeseball. I have the trampoline set up in the side yard, and we could have some fun.

GIRL SEES BOY

Boyfriend! Carry me back to the ambulance. Me with the broken foot in Price Chopper, covered with Cheese Helper. You in your blue EMT uniform, name tag: Chuck. You took my pulse and lifted me onto the stretcher. Listen, no one has ever sat by me in the back of an ambulance before; when you pulled my eye open with your thumb and looked at me, you stole my heart! And when you let the others wheel me into St. Luke's, I could have cried. Listen, Chuck, Chuck, Chuck. I'll be in physical therapy at Minute Clinic. Stop by Thursday afternoons and join me on the treadmill.

BOY SEES GIRL

I want to see you again! We met at Boogaloo Arena during the Forked Tongue concert. You were on he-man's shoulders, waving your blonde ponytail and flashing your beautiful boobs at the stage. I was just another black T-shirt bobbing up and down next to you until you saw my camera. When the flashbulb caught those puppies, you pointed at me and yelled something. Later, I took four more good shots. You were so funny pointing at me! I know you saw me. What were you saying? When our eyes locked, you stole my heart. Can you get rid of the horse you rode in on and meet me at the Blue Tang concert? I'll bring the photos. All the other EMTs think the shots are fabulous.

GIRL SEES BOY

You thin thing! We saw each other at Mosh and Knosh after-hours last Sunday. I came in with a group after the Forked Tongue concert, and we sat in the window booth and were chowing down on the Round-the-World pizza. My boyfriend kept warning you back, waving his finger, remember? He's a giant. You were barefoot. Was that your blue motorcycle helmet on the counter? You looked like a starving angel. I saw you take that guy's wallet, but when you passed our table, our eyes met. Skinny man, you stole my heart. Meet me? Please reply.

BOY SEES GIRL

I could tell you understood me from the first time our eyes met. All Nightie Quick Stop, last Sunday at four A.M. Me: barefoot with the blue motorcycle helmet. You in capri pants and that large white T-shirt with the sleeves rolled, a bunch of bangles on your left wrist. You were buying feminine hygiene products, and I was being cuffed by those two meathead police guys. They had me pretty bent over the counter, but I could see the caring look in your sleepy eyes, and it stole my heart. That wasn't my gun. I want to see you again—in one to five years.

GIRL SEES BOY

We were going up! In the express elevator in the Kelsign Building last Wednesday, just before lunchtime—we were crammed in with those blue suits from Collections, and I was in the other corner. Could you hear my bracelets? Everybody else got out on 17, and then you went to 20. Are you an underwriter? You were wearing a seersucker suit with some, like, action figures in the breast pocket. Just before you got out, I farted—not too loud, just loud enough for you to hear—and when your eyes met mine, the look you sent my way stole my heart. I'm up on 26 in Liens and Means. Come up and see me sometime.

BOY SEES GIRL

Hey, bookworm, time for a study break. Where: Metro Basement Library. When: 3:15 Thursday afternoon. You: big stack of those red law books and that one giant gray book. Me: right across the table with five action figures from Feudal Demon Empire. Twirnal led the explorers up to two of the red books while Walvin made a break for the opening underneath the open gray book. This left the E-Twins and Dilffe in a bind. Who would they follow? When I *(concluded on page 146)*

ILLUSTRATION BY GEOFFREY GRAHN

CHEESE
HELPER

Sex & Sanctity *(continued from page 68)*

The bishops refused to hold themselves accountable. The legacy of Dallas is hierarchical hypocrisy.

should have done years ago was not enough to restore confidence in the bishops' capacity to lead the church. The bishops rejected any and all measures to make themselves accountable for their roles in endangering thousands of children. The legacy of the Dallas meeting is one of hierarchical hypocrisy, best illustrated by a photo taken of Bernard Cardinal Law of Boston rising to applaud the approval of the new measures. A priest who made a single mistake decades ago now faces a life exclusion from the ministry, while clerics, who transferred repeat offenders until recently, get off scot-free.

In proclaiming those rules, the church claims the authority of Jesus Christ himself. But, in fact, the Catholic teachings about sexual morality betray the teachings of Christ. The church's stewardship of Christ's teachings would, as Sister Mary Ignatius liked to say, "make Jesus puke."

The people who were the most shocked, disappointed and angry about what they were reading and seeing and hearing were those who go to church because they believe in what Jesus said and represented and because they want to emulate him—the same basic impulse that had sent me to the seminary.

What did Jesus have to say about sex? From the evidence we have, one thing is certain: He said little about human sexuality and nothing about masturbation, contraception, premarital sex or homosexual love.

What was Jesus' sexuality? Was he gay or straight? Was he sexually active? As a matter of scriptural record, we just don't know. There are hints about what his life was like. He traveled with young men and women, often sleeping under the stars. He wasn't averse to physical affection. In John 12:1–8, for example, one of his disciples, Mary (not his mother), anointed his body with perfumed oil. Shortly before Christ's crucifixion, John, believed to be the youngest of the apostles and Jesus' favorite, rested his head on Jesus' breast (John 13:23).

Information about Jesus' family is sparse, except for the belief that Mary was a virgin when she gave birth to Jesus, who was conceived by the grace of the Holy Spirit. That remains one of the immutable doctrines of the church—not even reformers care to dispute it. It lives on as a "mystery."

Scriptures refer unambiguously to Jesus' "brothers and sisters." Monsignor John Meier of Notre Dame, in *A Marginal Jew: Rethinking the Historical Jesus*, leaves no doubt that Jesus had siblings. If nothing else, the idea casts an interesting light on Joseph. Church teachings had turned him into something of a mysterious and happy eunuch.

The record is also illuminating in regard to the issue of the celibate all-male priesthood. Jesus suggested, as an ideal, total renunciation of family and friendships, but he never said anything about a celibacy requirement for discipleship. "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church," Jesus said to Saint Peter, his first pope (Matthew 16:18). Saint Peter had a mother-in-law, and that means he had a wife (Matthew 8:14–15).

Judging by the historical record, Jesus liked women and they liked him. Women were present at the Last Supper and, 40-odd days later, they were present again when the church was born at the feast of Pentecost. He enjoyed their company, regarding them as disciples. When Jesus died there were three people loyal to him at the foot of the cross—two women and one man (John 19:25–26).

Women played key roles in providing financial support to the early church in Rome and elsewhere. Historians have uncovered evidence that women were among those who hosted the earliest celebrations of the Eucharist.

The absence of any condemnation of sex says a great deal when contrasted with Jesus' actions and with his opinions on any number of issues. In other words, his gospel of love had priorities other than disparaging sexuality.

He forgave sinners. In one notable instance, he intervened in the public stoning of a woman accused of adultery. He urged her to sin no more and told those who were without sin to throw the first stone. Indeed, Jesus forgave everyone except the authorities who refused to listen to his complaints about organized religion and how the word of God was being betrayed.

Over time, however, the church has created an essentially fanciful, fabricated interpretation of Jesus and his beliefs. The church spun the archetypal figures of Jesus, Mary and Joseph into chaste, asexual creatures. Church teaching is that Jesus was a heterosexual male who never had a sexual experience. The church extended Mary's virginity to her entire life.

How did the church end up straying so far from its origins and become almost pathologically antisexual? One can blame a man who lived in the fourth and fifth centuries who came to be called Saint Augustine of Hippo. Augustine indulged his senses as a youth, much to the dismay of his mother, Monica. He frequented the sexual free-for-alls in the baths of Carthage and Rome, and felt good about it. He had a favorite mistress and fathered a son.

All the while, Monica prayed that her son would change his ways. And he did. At age 32, suddenly consumed by guilt, Augustine abandoned sex and devoted himself to the church, becoming a bishop and an influential teacher. Monica became a saint.

The trouble for successive generations of Catholics was that Augustine set about spreading his guilt around. He shunned what he had experienced in the early part of his life, and his writings introduced a sense of dualism, a tension between body and spirit that dominated Western thought for centuries. Augustine's most benevolent take on sex is that it's a distraction from God. At its worst, Augustinian notions of sex involve corruption and moral decay. He still influences the church's perspective on human sexuality.

Woven into Augustine's repressive themes is the church's adoption of natural law as a fundamental principle. Natural law is a human invention, based on the Aristotelian notion that each of us has in our hearts an understanding of what is right and what is wrong, what is natural and what is unnatural. When it comes to sex, the argument goes, man and woman were created to be together in a monogamous relationship for the purpose of procreation. With that as its paradigm, the church has, over the centuries, defined and condemned as unnatural every other form of sexual expression and relationship.

This belief in sex as sin has been worsened in the American Catholic church, which was shaped by the history of Ireland. The practice of individual confession to a priest began nearly 600 years after Jesus' death, invented by Irish and English monks. They created books of penance, setting forth various offenses and appropriate spiritual penalties.

Sex became the signature taboo of Irish Catholicism. The Irish bishops helped ruin the great 19th century Irish patriot Charles Stewart Parnell, Ireland's best hope for a meaningful emancipation, when he had an affair

(continued on page 143)

"Drums say, 'Tarzan come . . . Jane still faking it . . . !'"

playboy's

fall & winter fashion forecast

Be a scene-stealer: The photographer (above) is in a leather-front cardigan by Alfred Dunhill and trousers by Bills Khakis. The prop director wears a suede-front cardigan by Brioni, shirt by Kenneth Cole, pants by Thierry Mugler and boots by Kenneth Cole. Eu-ricka's dress is by Halston. Opposite page, top: The backseat driver wears a leather jacket, turtleneck, cashmere pants and cap, all by Sean John. His gloves are by Paul Smith. The director is in a turtleneck sweater and corduroy suit from PS by Paul Smith. His boots are from Unlisted by Kenneth Cole. She's wearing an outfit by Thierry Mugler and boots by Stuart Weitzman. Opposite page, center, left to right: Shirt and herringbone jacket are by Brioni. Plaid jacket and turtleneck are by Alfred Dunhill. Sports coat and shirt are by Hickey-Freeman and sweater vest is by Bobby Jones. Jacket and shirt are by Stefano Ricci. Her dress is by ABS, her necklace is by Marley Mac. In the black-and-white photos are a dress by Anne Bowen and a diamond choker by H. Stern.

this season's stars are tweed, leather and the fabulous euricka

fashion by joseph de acetis
photography by nigel barker
produced by jennifer ryan jones
stylist: meriem orlet

WHERE AND HOW TO BUY ON PAGE 154.

New Orleans–based singer Euricka is signed to HOF Records. This spread, left to right: The photographer is in a leather jacket and corduroy jeans by D&G and corduroy bucket hat by Samsonite. On the riser, the coat, zip-front sweater and tweed pants are by Donna Karan and shoes by Johnston and Murphy. Euricka's dress is by Anne Bowen, coat and necklace by Helen Yarmak, hat by Suzanne Couture Millinery and shoes by Salvatore Ferragamo. Next to her, he's in a coat, turtleneck, trousers and hiking boots, all by Michael Kors. The felt fedora is by NY Hat Co. Last are a coat, denim jacket, sweater and moleskin pants, all by Hugo Boss. Boots are by Johnston and Murphy.

Autumn is the time to break out of tactile monotony. Mix knits and leather or tweeds and leather. Throw on some cashmere, light wool or Donegal tweed. Classically rugged wools are back—but these aren't the stuffy tweeds seen wandering ivied university campuses. Herringbones, checks and rich plaids offer visual texture, too. This page, left to right: Three-piece wool plaid suit, shirt, tie and oxfords all by Hugo Boss. Chalk-stripe suit, checked shirt, V-neck sweater and tie all by Gianluca Isaia. Oxfords by Johnston and Murphy. Donegal tweed suit, shirt, tie and loafers all by John Varvatos. In the photos, Euricka is wearing dresses by Anne Bowen.

This page, left to right: Leather trench coat and tweed pants are by Kenneth Cole and turtleneck is by John Varvatos. The contrast between leather and tweed is key. Euricka is in a suit by Giorgio Armani and hat by Suzanne Couture Millinery. To her right are a belted suede jacket by Salvatore Ferragamo, velvet shirt and leather pants by Thierry Mugler and leather cap by NY Hat Co. The cinched waist of these belted coats means big shoulders. That's an effect which helps create the one thing dressing well is all about—presence.

THE BRAT COMES TO THE BIG TIME

steve spurrier is the highest-paid coach in the history of pro football, and he's never coached a game

playboy profile By GEOFFREY NORMAN

STEVE SPURRIER sucked up all the oxygen in the room. Reporters couldn't get enough of him. He was the highest-paid head coach in the National Football League ($25 million for five years) and he worked for the league's most volatile owner, Dan Snyder. As the fourth Washington Redskins coach in less than two years, Spurrier was not a symbol of job security. But the reporters at the NFL meetings in Orlando treated him as an established celebrity.

The fascination with Spurrier gained momentum as the 2002 season approached, and it went beyond the basic elements of high pay and high risk. Spurrier is the most compelling personality to arrive in the NFL in a long time. He is the most innovative and most controversial college coach of the Nineties. And perhaps the best. No other college coach—not Knute Rockne, not Joe Paterno, not Bear Bryant—reached 100 victories so quickly. And Spurrier has an ego and a mouth to match his record. He does not look, act or talk like a typical football coach. He is trim where most coaches are beefy. In a tight game, he is the most animated person in the stadium, throwing his trademark visor, yelling at players and officials until the veins stand out in his neck and his face turns almost purple. Instead of the cliché, which most coaches rely on in order to get through an interview, Spurrier will actually tell you what he thinks. He will even mock football decorum.

He does not feel compelled to make nice with the opposition. In fact, he is the other thing. A taunter. When he was head coach at the University of Florida, Spurrier liked to call Georgia's Ray Goff, "Ray Goof." He likes to stick it to his opponents, even after he has beaten them. He enjoys inflicting pain almost as much as Hannibal Lecter does.

After winning the 1993 national championship, Florida's fiercest rival, Florida State, found itself embroiled in a controversy over a shopping spree involving players who used an agent's credit card to run up charges at a Foot Locker store. To amuse some boosters at a dinner one night, Spurrier announced that FSU stood for Free Shoes University.

The line got a laugh, so he used it again and again.

A couple of seasons later, Spurrier brought his number one–ranked team into Tallahassee for the last game of the regular season against number two FSU and lost 24–21. Spurrier's boys did not lose (despite the close score) so much as get their bells rung and their asses handed to them. The Gators' quarterback and eventual Heisman winner, Danny Wuerffel, spent most of the day on his back. After the game, Spurrier accused Florida State of playing dirty. On a television call-in show with FSU's head coach, Bobby Bowden, listening in, Spurrier said, "Florida State plays a little differently than most of the teams in the SEC do. Alabama players tend to go in there and just give a little shove and try not to hurt the

ILLUSTRATION BY EDMUND GUY

quarterback."

The clear and grave implication was that FSU players try to hurt opponents. Bowden, characteristically, tried to deflect the controversy. "Well, maybe we stop hitting at the echo of the whistle," he said, "instead of at the whistle itself."

Spurrier, however, was not going to be appeased. "Obviously," he said to reporters, "Bobby Bowden and [FSU defensive coordinator] Mickey Andrews are telling their players to try to knock the quarterback out of the game."

Spurrier wouldn't stop on the late hits. By the time the two schools played a rematch five weeks later in the Sugar Bowl for the national title, he had focused the spotlight on himself instead of on his team and he had won the mind game. Florida won 52–20 and the Gators were national champions for the first time in school history.

Spurrier routinely and gleefully violates the old coaching rule about not running up the score. Florida and Georgia had been hate-your-guts rivals since before Spurrier's playing days. One of his toughest losses as a player was against Georgia in 1966, when Florida was 7–0 and dreaming of a championship. Georgia put an end to those dreams, 27–10.

So, 29 years later, in 1995, Spurrier ran it up on Georgia. With the clock running down and the reserves in the game, Spurrier called a trick play that went for a touchdown and made the final score 52–17. The Georgia fans were howling and throwing things at Spurrier as he left the field, smiling. Asked about that play, he explained that no team had ever scored 50 points against Georgia at home. "We wanted to make it a memorable game for the Gators—and it was."

Spurrier craves victory, of course, and you won't hear him mouth homilies after a close game. If he were an executioner, he'd be good at his work. He might even tell a client, in his last moments on earth, "You know, you look kind of fat."

Good as he is, though, there is something improbable about Spurrier the coach. He almost missed his calling: He came to the trade by accident and, son of a gun, discovered he was a genius. He won the Heisman trophy in 1966 and quarterbacks—especially Heisman winners—don't usually make good coaches. Coaching is too much hard work for the prima donnas of the game and Spurrier was unquestionably one of those when he graduated from Florida in 1967. He was drafted by the San Francisco 49ers and spent the next nine seasons mostly carrying a clipboard on the sidelines. He was finally waived by the 49ers and picked up by the expansion Tampa Bay Buccaneers in 1977. In the one professional season he started at quarterback, his team lost every game. There is a newspaper clip on the wall of his office, the headline of which reads: SPURRIER PUT ON WAIVERS.

"A lot of people think it has all been easy for him," says one of his old teammates, "winning the Heisman as a player and the national championship as a coach. All they see is the arrogance. But Steve knows about humility. He learned all about that backing up John Brodie and losing every game with the Bucs."

His first attempts at coaching were similarly humbling. He was playing a lot of golf and assumed that, eventually, he would fall into the predictable groove of the aging football star. "I figured I would do PR or something, like athletes do," he once told a writer. The Heisman would be his ticket to coast.

But he signed on as a quarterback coach at Florida and realized the game was in his blood. He was released after a coaching change. Nothing personal, just housecleaning. So he moved to Georgia Tech as an assistant. But Tech had a bad year and the head coach was fired. Once again, Spurrier was looking for a job. He had been unemployed now three times in two years.

Next stop was Duke, which no one ever called a football powerhouse. Spurrier was made offensive coordinator, but the talent was so thin that he had to advertise for pass receivers in the university newspaper. Duke had so-so seasons but the offense was exciting and scored points. In 1983 Spurrier was hired as head coach by the Tampa Bay Bandits of the United States Football League.

The league folded after three seasons, but Spurrier's teams won games and were exciting. He went back to Duke as head coach and the Spurrier legend began to take shape. His teams moved the ball so quickly they seemed almost to be playing fast-break football. They won the Atlantic Coast Conference title, went to a bowl game, beat North Carolina for the first time in 10 years and they were—little old Duke—even accused of running up the score on the Tarheels. Spurrier just loved that. It was like being accused of picking on Mike Tyson.

Florida, meanwhile, was in the doldrums and a movement started among the faithful to bring back the prodigal.

Before Spurrier arrived at Florida, the Gators had never even been Southeastern Conference champions. Plenty of doubters thought Spurrier wasn't the answer. He might have run through the Atlantic Coast Conference, where they thought of basketball as a major sport, but his nose was insufficiently hard for SEC football, where defense and fundamentals ruled.

But Spurrier's Florida teams won right out of the gate with offense. His teams eventually won six conference titles and one national championship. He was smarter than everyone else. He let it be known that he didn't believe in staying all night at the office. He knew he couldn't outwork some of his rival coaches, so he would just have to outthink them. He thought several of them out of jobs—desperate coaches who stayed late trying to come up with ways to stop Florida's offense while the man who'd designed it was out on the golf course, working on his scratch game. The golf game didn't make him any more popular with rival coaches and fans. Neither did his looks—youthful and sublimely untroubled—like a guy who had done well on the PGA tour and retired to Florida to tend to his investments. He had an aura, and when it slipped, there was rejoicing. After Nebraska beat Florida 62–24 for the national championship, running up more than 600 yards of old-fashioned, hard-nosed offense against the Gators, a former SEC coach called a newspaper reporter at seven o'clock the next morning, waking him up to say, "See, I told you that shit wouldn't work against a real football team."

Typically, Spurrier took that defeat ungraciously. When his quarterback, Wuerffel, was sacked for a safety after Spurrier had called for a pass out of a no-back formation from the one-yard line, Spurrier said it was the quarterback's fault—that he should have taken the penalty if he saw the formation wouldn't work. After other defeats, he has blamed the officials or his players. "We can take losing," he said after one tough loss (to FSU). Then he demonstrated the opposite. "But we hate to beat ourselves," he said. "You hate to play so stupid that you don't give yourself a chance to win. We're not smart enough to be great."

He is so thin-skinned that he sends handwritten letters to reporters who write stories that he doesn't like (calling them "a__holes" [*sic*]). He once wrote a letter to a newspaper saying, "I have accepted the fact that the world is full of critics. They play no ball, fight no fights, make no mistakes, because they attempt nothing. They sit back and criticize the doers of the world who make mistakes because they attempt many things."

He carried on a feud for years with one Orlando columnist, refusing to speak to him or acknowledge him at press conferences. After the reporter retired, Spurrier said, "I guess I outlasted him, huh?"

He let it be known, early in his tour at Florida, that he would turn down all

(concluded on page 139)

"In these smaller airports, I for one applaud these extra security precautions."

Shallan's Sheer Beauty

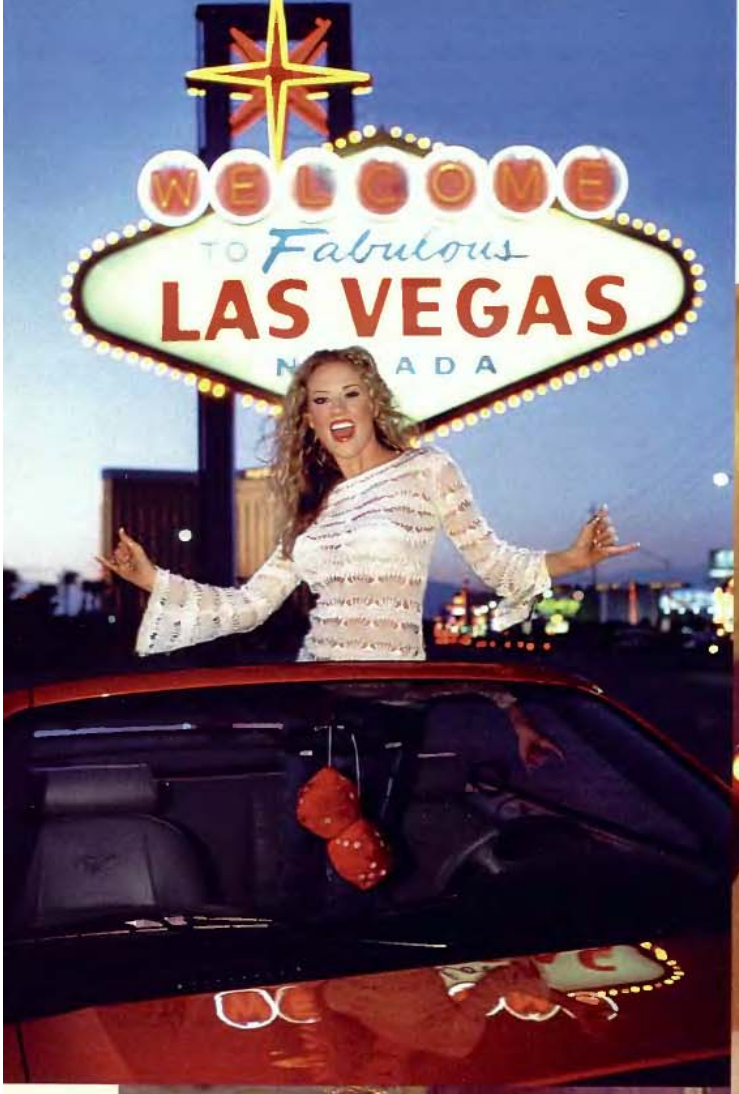
miss september goes out on a limb

SHALLAN MEIERS had the right look to become one of the three finalists on the Fox special *Girl Next Door: The Search for a Playboy Centerfold*, but the 20-year-old model had to overcome serious jitters about baring it all. "The show was one big *Fear Factor* for me," she confesses. "I've been a shy person all my life. If I was ever into it with a guy, by God, the lights were off. I didn't even want to change in front of anyone on the show." Shallan says she bonded with Miss August, Christina Santiago, after the program ended, and admits to cooking up a little mischief with contestant Jill Scott. "One night the cameramen watched us all go to bed," she says. "I asked Jill, 'I wonder what would happen if you jumped into bed with me right now?' I thought it would be funny. So she jumps into bed, throws the covers over our heads and starts moving around like she's humping me. The cameramen sounded like a herd of elephants running up the stairs. We were both in our own beds by the time they got there. They probably thought I was wild, and then I disappointed them. You put yourself out on a limb for a reality show, especially one with a controversial topic. I feel like it is easier now to let things roll off my back. I'm a more confident person."

Miss September was born in California but lived in Arizona and Reno before settling in Las Vegas eight years ago. She

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEPHEN WAYDA

You're more likely to find Miss September swing-dancing than playing gomes on the Vegos Strip. "My stepmom is a doncer, ond since I was little I've wotched ballroom dancing competitions," says Shollon. "I love how intricate it is—the choreography between the two people. It's not about bumping and grinding on the dance floor. I've done more swing than anything else, but I love it oll. The problem is finding o partner!"



started modeling at the age of 13 and won the Miss Las Vegas contest in 1999. Shallan studied international business and communications in college but took some time off to work as a showgirl to save money for school when a Fox executive casting director spotted her. "This woman came up and asked me if my breasts were real," she says. "I thought she was drunk or something—I didn't know what was going on until she gave me her card. I took a risk and gave her my number, and before I knew it, I got the call saying they wanted me for the show and a camera crew was filming me in my home." One thing Shallan isn't shy about is what she looks for in a guy. "I have noticed that the conservative types tend to think alike—and that really bores me," she says. "I gravitate toward people who live on the edge. I like a guy who has many layers. A lot of girls just base things on looks, but I don't. Also, I don't always go with what is logical, and I've never had the urge to try something that everyone else talks about—I never took any drugs or even smoked a cigarette. I get my own natural rush from things, and I like going out and finding that thrill in life."

See more photos, plus video, of Shallan at cyber.playboy.com.

MISS SEPTEMBER

PLAYMATE DATA SHEET

NAME: SHALLAN A. MEIERS

BUST: 34D WAIST: 24 HIPS: 36

HEIGHT: 5'10" WEIGHT: 125

BIRTH DATE: 09.30.81 BIRTHPLACE: SAN DIEGO

AMBITIONS: GRAD WITH A DEGREE IN COMMUNICATIONS, PURSUE CAREER IN ACTING, MARRY THE MAN OF MY DREAMS, HAVE MY "HAPPILY EVER AFTER."

TURN-ONS: HUMOR, SPONTANEITY, CONFIDENCE, INDEPENDENCE, GORGEOUS SMILE, AMBITIONS, INTELLIGENCE, HOW ABOUT A BOY SCOUT W/ PIERCINGS + TATS?

TURNOFFS: SIDE HAIR PARTS, SPEEDOS, ARROGANCE, DISHONESTY, A GUY WHO NEEDS TO BE PERFECT.... IF YOU'RE HUMAN, YOU'RE NOT PERFECT. (MEAN PEOPLE SUCK!)

MOST IMPORTANT: SOMEONE WHO COULD TREAT THEIR MOTHER BAD!!!

FAVORITE AUTHORS: ANNE RICE, STEPHEN KING, SHAKESPEARE, EDGAR ALLAN POE.

FIVE BANDS I LISTEN TO: SYSTEM OF A DOWN, METALLICA, UNWRITTEN LAW, STAIND AND — WHO COULD FORGET — SUBLIME!!!

I'D LIKE TO TRAVEL TO: BALI, JAMAICA, FUN UNDER THE SUN AND BY THE BEACH... PERFECT!, BUT MY DREAM IS TO VISIT MACHU PICCHU... SIGH...

SPORTS THAT I PLAY: SNOWBOARDING (YAY!), MUD OR SNOW FOOTBALL. HEE HEE HE... DARTS, IS PS2 A SPORT YET? I WANT TO TRY MORE X-TREME SPORTS. HERE I COME PLAYBOY X-TREME TEAM.

WOW, 13 Y/O... SO LONG AGO... THE YEARS HAVE BEEN GOOD TO ME.

THIS IS ALI AND ME AT DANCE CAMP. GREAT TIMES... SENIOR YEAR!

THIS IS THE ONLY CROWN I WILL EVER OWN.... MISS LAS VEGAS 1999.

PLAYBOY'S PARTY JOKES

What's the difference between a pickpocket and a peeping Tom? A pickpocket snatches watches.

What does a blonde put behind her ears to attract men? Her ankles.

PLAYBOY CLASSIC: A man walked into a psychiatrist's office wearing nothing but underwear made of Saran Wrap. The psychiatrist said, "Well, I can clearly see your nuts."

A blonde, wanting to earn extra money, decided to do odd jobs for her wealthy neighbors. At the first house, the owner said, "Well, you can paint my porch. How much will you charge?"

The young woman said, "How does $50 sound?"

The man agreed and told her that the paint and brushes were in the garage. The man's wife overheard the conversation and asked, "Does she realize the porch goes all the way around the house?"

The man replied, "She should. She was standing on it."

A short time later, the blonde came to the door to collect her money. "You've finished already?" he asked.

"Yes," the blonde replied. "And I had paint left over so I gave it two coats."

Impressed, the man reached in his pocket for the $50. "And by the way," the blonde added, "it's not a Porch. It's a Lexus."

THIS MONTH'S MOST FREQUENT SUBMISSION: A church janitor was sweeping around the altar when a priest said, "I really have to go to the bathroom. Could you sit in the confessional for a few minutes? Just tell whoever comes in to say 10 Hail Marys as penance."

The janitor did as the priest asked. The first confessor was a woman who said, "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. I performed oral sex on a man."

The janitor was shocked. He didn't think 10 Hail Marys would be nearly enough punishment, so he stuck his head out of the confessional and asked an altar boy who was passing by, "What does the priest give for oral sex?"

The altar boy replied, "Usually a candy bar or a soda."

An Arab was walking through the desert, desperate for water, when he saw an old Jewish man selling neckties. The Arab said, "I'm dying of thirst. Can I have some water?"

The Jewish man replied, "I don't have any water, but why don't you buy a tie? Here's one that will look nice with your robe."

The Arab said, "I don't want a tie. I need water."

"OK, don't buy a tie," the Jewish man said. "But to show you what a nice guy I am, I'll tell you that over that hill, about four miles away, is a restaurant. They have water."

The Arab walked over the hill. Two hours later, he came crawling back. The Jew asked, "Couldn't you find the restaurant?"

The Arab gasped, "I found it all right. Your brother wouldn't let me in without a tie."

A man and his friend were driving down a country road. The driver pointed out where he'd had sex for the first time. "It was right down there by that tree. I remember the day perfectly. We made love for hours," the man recalled.

"That sounds wonderful," his friend said.

"It was great until I looked up and noticed that her mother was standing there watching us," the man said.

"What did her mother say when she saw you making love to her daughter?" the friend asked.

He hesitated, then replied, "Baaaaaaa."

A man whose wife was going into labor dialed 911 in a panic. When the dispatcher answered, he cried, "My wife is having a baby. Her contractions are only two minutes apart. What do I do?"

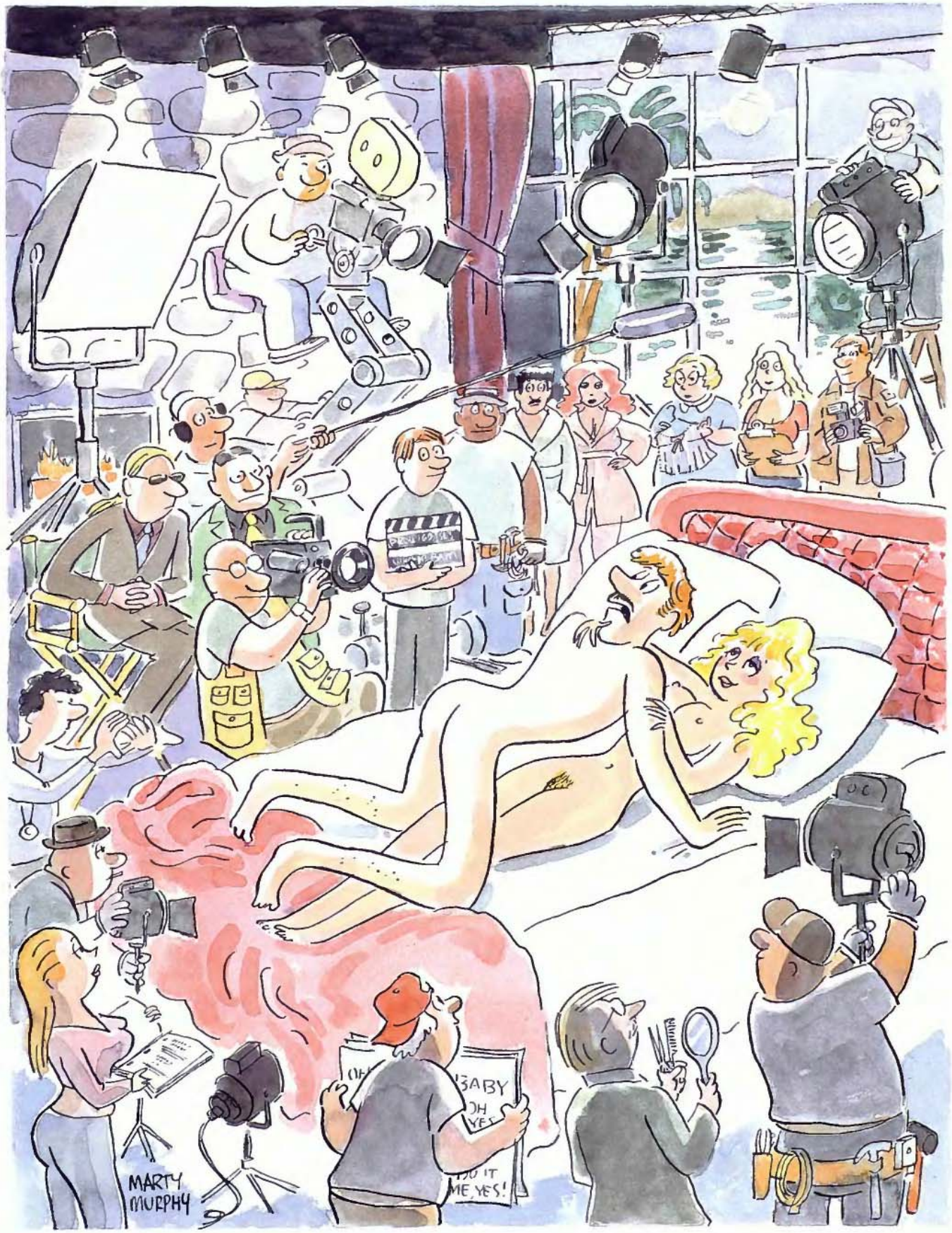
The dispatcher said, "Calm down. Is this her first child?"

"No," the frantic man replied. "This is her husband."

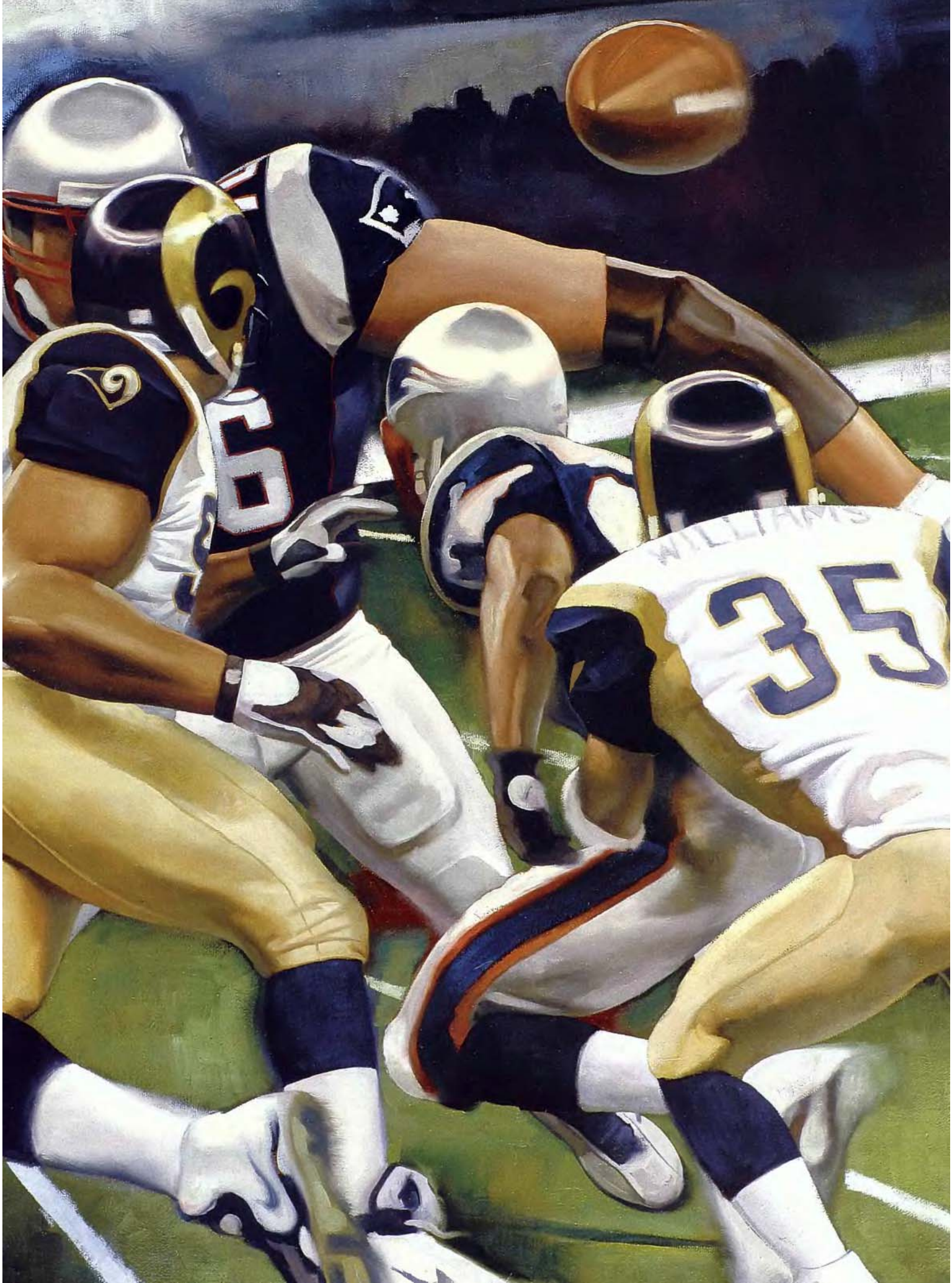
PROCRASTINATOR'S TO-DO LIST

(1) Aw, fuck it.

Send your jokes on postcards to Party Jokes Editor, PLAYBOY, *680 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60611, or by e-mail to jokes@playboy.com. $100 will be paid to the contributor whose submission is selected. Sorry, jokes cannot be returned.*



"Now don't go blaming me, but suddenly all she wants to do is cuddle . . . !"


WILLIAMS
35

The eyes of Texas will be on Emmitt Smith this National Football League season. But the eyes of the NFL will be on all of Texas. Smith will be the feature attraction in 2002 as he stalks Walter Payton's NFL all-time rushing record. The greatest runner in the history of the Dallas Cowboys needs 540 yards to topple one of the game's most prestigious marks—a mark that has changed hands just once in the past 36 years. Jim Brown retired in 1965 with a record 12,312 yards, and Payton finally caught him in 1984. So go ahead and chisel Emmitt's mug into the NFL's Mount Rushmore alongside those of Brown and Payton. Smith's quest will captivate football fans for the first few weeks of the season. But the Houston Texans will captivate fans for the entire fall, as expansion teams generally do. The NFL returns to Houston for the first time since 1996, when the Oilers packed up their helmets and cowboy hats and headed for Tennessee. All Bud Adams wanted was a new stadium when he moved

Playboy's PRO FOOTBALL FORECAST

parity and free agency could turn the pursuit of super bowl XXXVI into a roller-coaster ride

sports By Rick Gosselin

The Patriots' Tom Brady proved it can be better to be cool than spectacular in the last-second Super Bowl win over the Rams.

ILLUSTRATION BY ROBERTO PARADA

Playboy's PICKS

By Gil Brandt

NFC East	Philadelphia.....11–5	Washington.....8–8
	Dallas.....8–8	Giants.....5–11
NFC North	Green Bay.....10–6	Minnesota.....7–9
	Chicago.....10–6	Detroit.....4–12
NFC South	New Orleans.....9–7	Tampa Bay.....7–9
	Atlanta.....8–8	Carolina.....3–13
NFC West	St. Louis.....11–5	Seattle.....9–7
	San Francisco.....10–6	Arizona.....6–10
AFC East	Miami.....10–6	Buffalo.....7–9
	New England.....10–6	Jets.....6–10
AFC North	Pittsburgh.....12–4	Cincinnati.....8–8
	Cleveland.....10–6	Baltimore.....5–11
AFC South	Indianapolis.....10–6	Jacksonville.....8–8
	Tennessee.....9–7	Houston.....4–12
AFC West	Oakland.....10–6	Denver.....8–8
	San Diego.....9–7	Kansas City.....5–11

NFC Wild Cards: Chicago and San Francisco
AFC Wild Cards: New England and Cleveland

NFC Champion: ST. LOUIS
AFC Champion: PITTSBURGH

SUPER BOWL CHAMPION: PITTSBURGH STEELERS

one of the American Football League's charter franchises to Nashville. A jilted town gave Texans owner Bob McNair just that in his pursuit of an expansion team. Houston outlasted Los Angeles in the bid for the 32nd NFL franchise because it gave McNair a commitment for a $400 million football palace with a retractable roof. Los Angeles couldn't, wouldn't and, in the end, didn't commit to a new stadium.

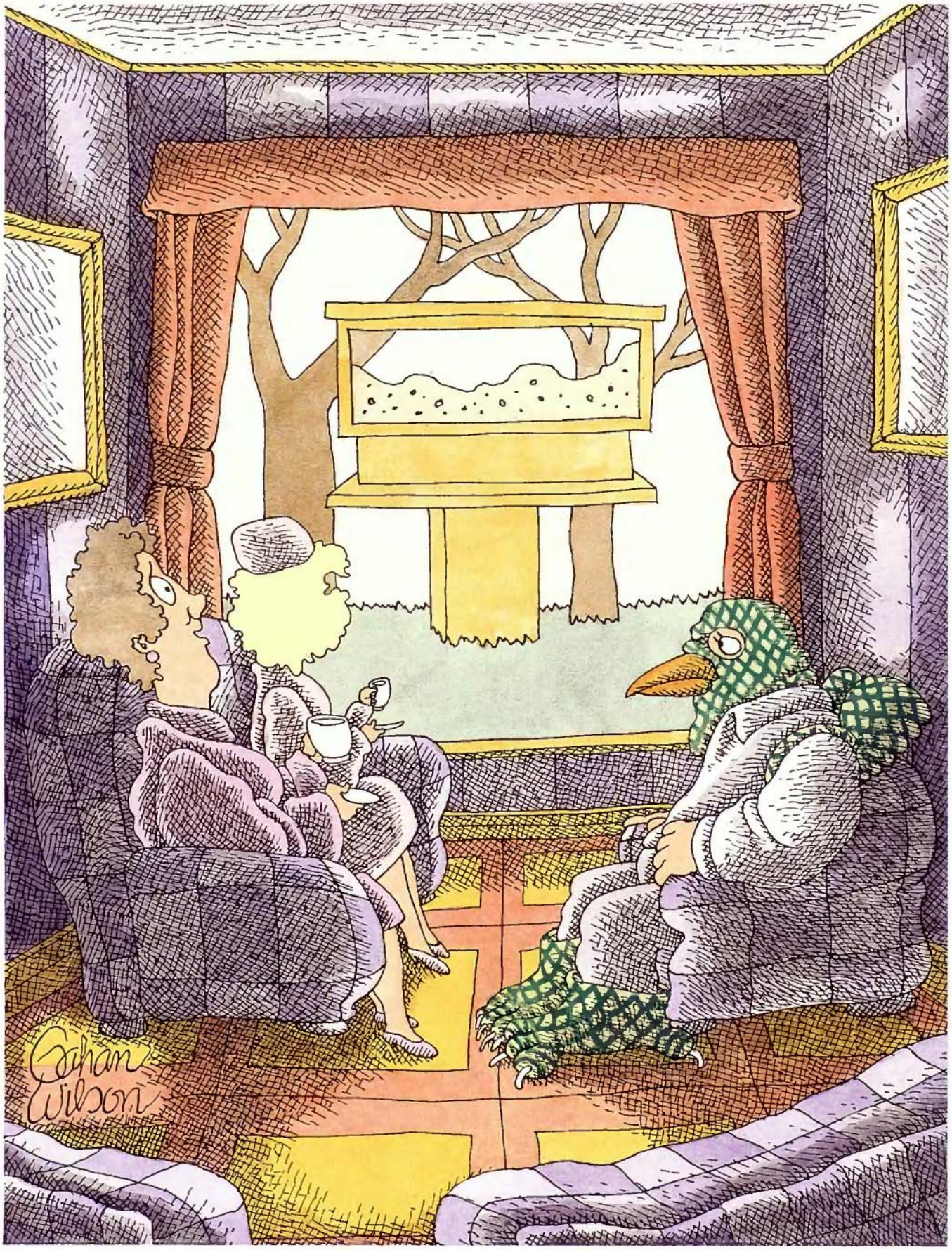
So the city that gave pro football the Astrodome, Luv Ya Blue and Billy "White Shoes" Johnson once again has a team to call its own. The arrival of the Texans also allows the NFL to restore some sanity to its divisional alignment. With 32 teams, the NFL decided to expand to eight divisions of four teams apiece. Some teams will leave comfortable lodgings for new divisional homes, giving the NFL the liberty to relocate teams geographically. So Atlanta and Carolina no longer compete in the West, Arizona is out of the East and Jacksonville is no longer considered Central. A Sunbelt division has been established with Atlanta, Carolina, New Orleans and Tampa Bay now forming the NFC South. A true NFC West has finally materialized with Arizona and Seattle joining San Francisco and St. Louis. "It's long overdue," says 49ers coach and frequent flier Steve Mariucci, whose team made annual road trips of 2500 miles to play some division rivals in the old NFC West. "At least we stay on our side of the country more often now." The Texans will be housed in the AFC South along with Jacksonville, Tennessee and Indianapolis. Indianapolis, south? Well, no realignment plan is perfect.

Smith may be close to perfection as a player, though. He is the first back in NFL history to rush for 1000 yards in 11 consecutive seasons, and he also ranks second on the league's all-time touchdown list with 159. He has amassed 16,187 yards, four NFL rushing titles and three Super Bowl rings in his career.

"In my mind, Walter Payton is the greatest football player ever," Tennessee Titans general manager Floyd Reese says. "I never saw him touch a football that he didn't try to kill you. Whether it was running, blocking, jogging on the field or jogging off, I was simply amazed he could do all that and stay healthy. That's Emmitt, too. If there's anybody who deserves to break the record it's Emmitt, simply because he's been there every week. Good years, bad years, Super Bowl seasons, four-win seasons: That's the true mark of a warrior."

Smith has averaged 87.5 yards per game in his career. If he maintains that

(continued on page 130)



"The feeder is for George."

CONTINENTAL COOKING IN YOUR CRIB

Tell her you know a place where the food is great.

Your place

Food by John Rezek

YOU TOOK HER to the movies. You took her to your favorite trattoria. You took her clubbing. So now you think you might want to amp up the intimacy level. Now's the time to let her see what you can do when it's just the two of you. Take her home and fix a dinner that will leave you both ready for the next course.

Here we'll tell you how to prepare flank steak with potato gratin, roasted brussels sprouts and a salad with classic French vinaigrette.

We'll assume that you know your way around a kitchen and how not to cook everything on high. To prepare a meal, especially while you're being watched, requires forethought and organization. If you can pull it off—and we say you can—you will present her with a dazzling dinner and irrefutable evidence that you have competencies she never dreamed of. The important thing is how you pull it off. Make a simple plan and then break everything down into its parts. What follows is a dinner that's easy to make and makes a good impression.

You'll want to give her something to nibble on as you cook. Marinated olives and a slice or two of Brie or gruyère with some bread or crackers are reliable candidates.

As for the olives, drain two cups of assorted good-quality ones. Combine them with a few tablespoons of olive oil, a segmented *(concluded on page 142)*

ILLUSTRATION BY EOMOND KIRAZ

PLAYBOY'S 20Q

Lenny Kravitz

rock's grindmaster speaks out on sampling, the beatles and hearing your music in an elevator

Back in the Eighties an aspiring rocker calling himself Romeo Blue decided to ditch the stage name and perform under his own moniker. It has been a good move for Lenny Kravitz. He's gone on to sell more than 12 million albums and collect four Grammys. Kravitz was apparently born to rock. He banged on pots and pans when he was a child, settled down for a while as a choirboy and staged his teenage rebellion to the accompaniment of self-taught bass, keyboards, guitar and drums.

Considered by critics as a retro musician in a techno age, Kravitz remains unmoved by attempts to label him. "I don't know what kind of musician I consider myself. I just try to play," he says.

While piling up album sales since his 1989 debut recording, Kravitz has experienced the travails of rock stardom—tabloid treatment of his six-year marriage to Cosby Show star Lisa Bonet (they have a 13-year-old daughter)—as well as the perks: houses in the Bahamas, New Orleans and Miami, front-row seats at fashion shows, and the sale of his music for SUV commercials.

He took a break from rehearsing with his tour band to meet with Contributing Editor Warren Kalbacker at Kravitz' futuristic "studio house" on Biscayne Bay.

"The place is a rock-and-roll mother ship," Kalbacker reports. "It's filled with recording equipment and decorated in a riot of red, silver, black and white. The bright red pod-style baby grand would motivate the most recalcitrant piano student. Kravitz padded across the deep pile carpeting, put his feet up on the long couch and began to speak softly about the music."

1

PLAYBOY: We learned long ago that rock and roll was here to stay. But how is rock faring in the age of hip-hop and ambient music?

KRAVITZ: There's no rebellion left in rock and roll. It's straight-up establishment business. It's a trip. An artist has to do certain things to have a career and a certain level of success. If you're going to be on VH1 or MTV, you have to do all the politics, and play this event and that affair. You're going to go around to all the stations to get airplay. Rock and roll was about doing your own thing, and you still can musically. But as far as not caring about the system—that's cool if you choose not to care, but if you do that, you won't play on that level.

2

PLAYBOY: You write your own songs. Does the business ever force you to play a more commercial tune than the one you compose in the studio?

KRAVITZ: I never do that. When I go into that room [*points to his studio*] and play my music, I make what I make. I'm not trying to please. When I come out of the studio I play the business game, because I want to share my music with as many people as possible. That doesn't mean you sell out. It means you have to balance your creative musician side with your business side—if you've got one.

3

PLAYBOY: What do you think of DJs? Is somebody sampling you right now?

KRAVITZ: I've been sampled a lot. That's what they do. That's their art form. It's like making a collage. People snip this stuff out of magazines and put it together. It's stuff that already exists, but now you've done your thing with it. I've seen great collages. My ex-wife used to make amazing collages, huge ones with things from all over the place. You take things and make them into something different.

4

PLAYBOY: We understand that copyright law requires acknowledging the artist who created the original music. Have you received your due?

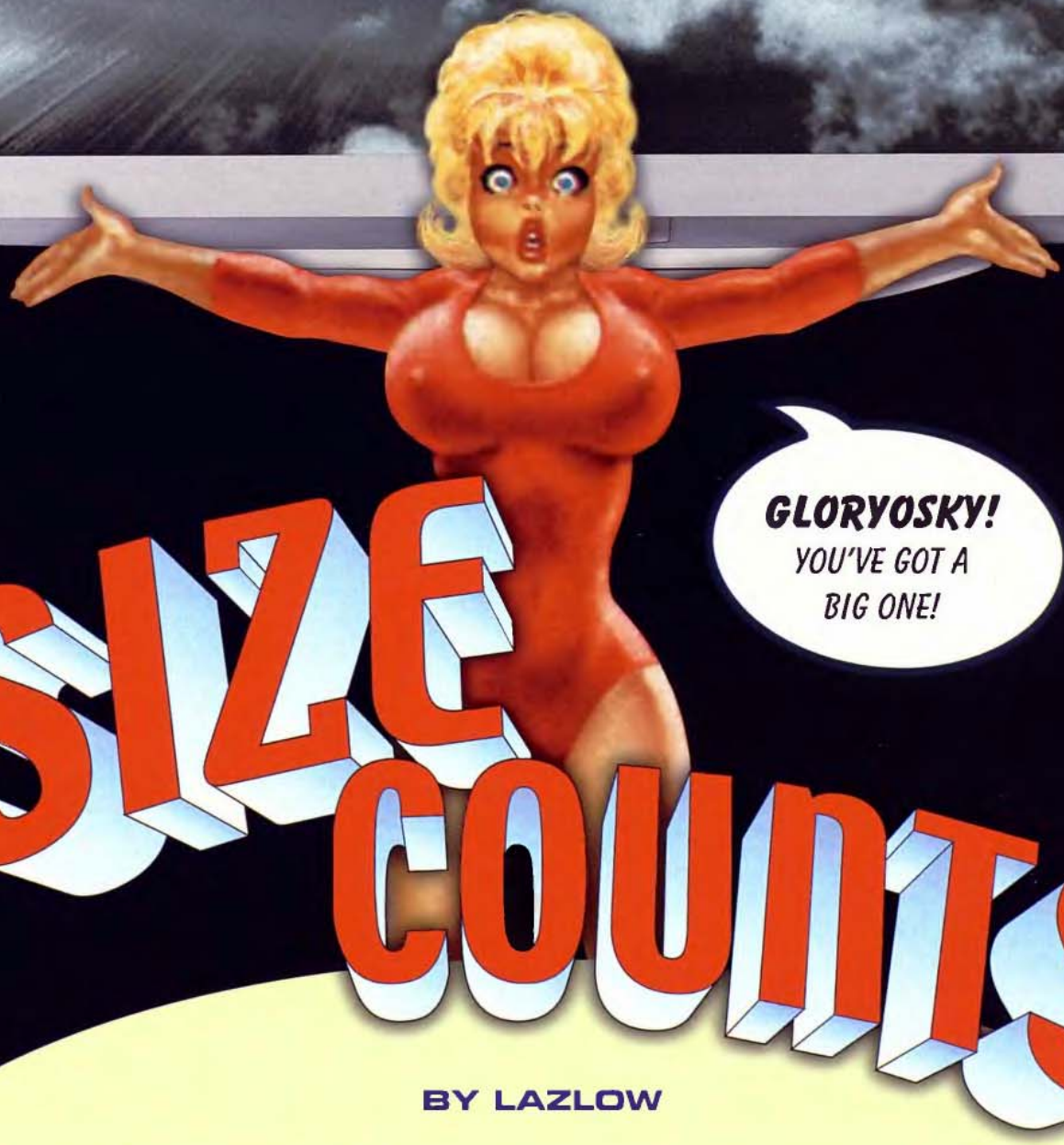
KRAVITZ: That's what is supposed to happen. Then again, forget even sampling. If a kid can go to a friend's house and burn a CD or download it, why would that kid buy a record? People are going to stop buying records. It's going to be all about the live show, which you obviously can't steal. It's time for artists to figure out other ways to do things, promoting their own things, playing smaller or larger halls—different locations than those owned by the big people. Being more independent and not being up in the system the whole time, not being part of a machine.

5

PLAYBOY: Did white rockers steal rock and roll from black musicians?

KRAVITZ: I wouldn't say that they stole it. I wouldn't make it into an issue like that. That's like asking right now if white people are stealing rap from black people. White kids rap all over the place. But if you look at history, African Americans have invented these musical forms, be it jazz, blues, gospel or rock and roll. People slowly accept it and other people start doing it. Then it becomes mainstream, a part of the culture. In a lot of cases the people who came second got more credit, more money and more recognition. We had Pat Boone recutting Little Richard tracks horribly—and those were the hits. A lot of white people—especially the Brits—took rock and roll and made incredible contributions to it. Look at what Led Zeppelin did to the blues. Look at what the Rolling Stones did. Hendrix went over to England and picked up the band and got his whole thing going. It's a misconception that rock and roll is white music, which is what a lot of white people say. And a lot of black people say it, too, which is very surprising to me. I've heard black people say that to me—"Oh, you play that white music." *(continued on page 153)*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK SELIGER

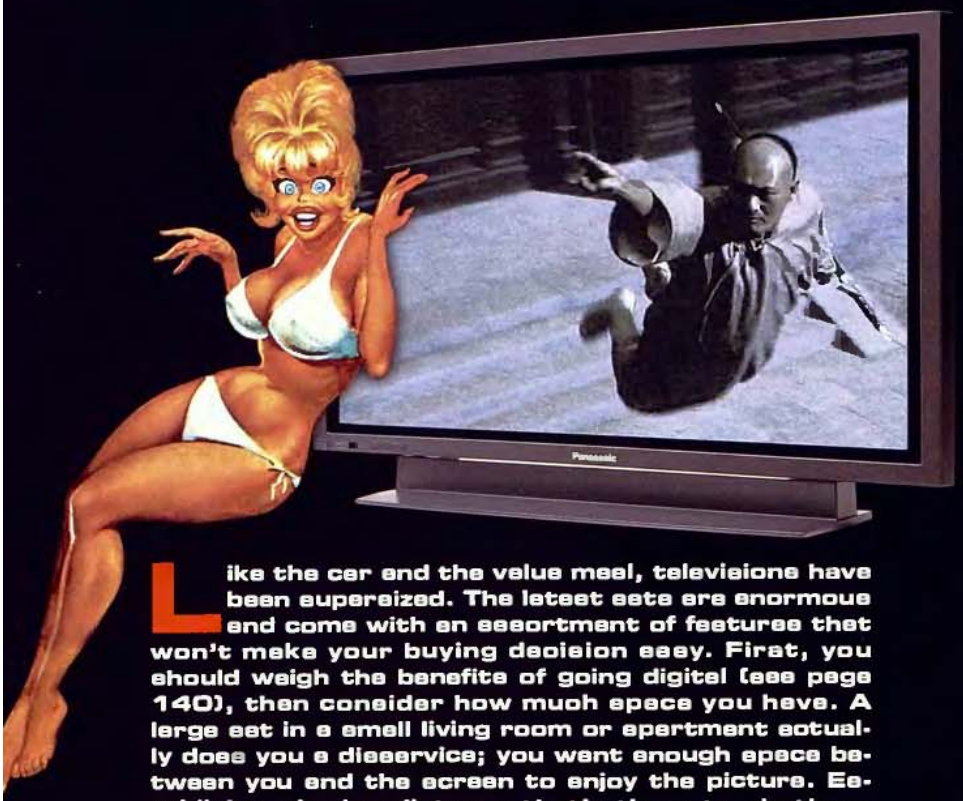


SIZE COUNTS

BY LAZLOW

IT'S TIME TO DITCH THAT 32-INCH TV AND BRING HOME A WHOPPER. HERE'S OUR GUIDE TO GOING BIG

WHERE AND HOW TO BUY ON PAGE 154.



OPPOSITE PAGE: PLASMA DISPLAYS OFFER THE HIGHEST RESOLUTION. ZENITH'S 42-INCH P42W22B HAS A 650:1 CONTRAST RATIO AND BUILT-IN ASPECT RATIO CORRECTION ($6000). LEFT: PANASONIC'S PT-50PHD3U 50-INCH PLASMA TELEVISION PRODUCES SMOOTH-MOVING IMAGES ($13,000). ABOVE: THE 150-INCH DIAGONAL PICTURE OUTPUT BY SONY'S CINEZA VPL-HS1 FRONT PROJECTOR IS ENOUGH TO FILL MOST LIVING ROOM WALLS ($3000). BELOW: SAMSUNG'S SLK-407W LCD TV PROVIDES A LOT OF SCREEN WITHOUT TAKING UP TOO MUCH FLOOR SPACE. THE 40-INCH SCREEN IS LESS THAN 14 INCHES THICK ($2800). BOTTOM LEFT: PUT YOUR PC IN THE LIVING ROOM. THE VX3600 MEGAMONITOR BY VIEWSONIC CAN BE ATTACHED TO YOUR COMPUTER, DVD PLAYER OR VIDEO GAME SYSTEM ($6000). BOTTOM RIGHT: YOU'LL NEED TO CLEAR SPACE FOR MITSUBISHI'S WS-73711. THE 73-INCH REAR-PROJECTION TV IS MORE THAN FIVE FEET TALL AND TWO FEET DEEP. IT COSTS $10,500 AND IS WORTH EVERY PENNY.

Like the car and the value meal, televisions have been supersized. The latest sets are enormous and come with an assortment of features that won't make your buying decision easy. First, you should weigh the benefits of going digital (see page 140), then consider how much space you have. A large set in a small living room or apartment actually does you a disservice; you want enough space between you and the screen to enjoy the picture. Establish a viewing distance that's three to six times the screen size (if you buy a 53-inch projection TV, sit at least 13¼ feet from the screen). Next, choose the format that works for you. Here's the lowdown on supersizing your tube with a wide-screen, high-definition-capable set that's sure to designate your place as Super Bowl central.

DIRECT-VIEW TVS

Referred to as CRT or direct-view TVs, some current high-end models are HD-capable, are loaded with features and have flat screens. With sizes from 32 to 40 inches, CRT televisions aren't the largest on the market, and most are trapped in the 4:3 aspect ratio. But CRTs in general are the least expensive and require little maintenance. They are also a good match for gamers. Video games tend to create "burn in," where a graphic on the screen for a long time leaves a permanent ghostlike image. This is less likely to occur with conventional sets.

We like the Wega line from Sony. The KV-34XBR800 ($3000) is a 34-inch (concluded on page 140)

"My accountant! My girl Friday! My au pair! My God! Where's my wife?"

centerfolds of sex

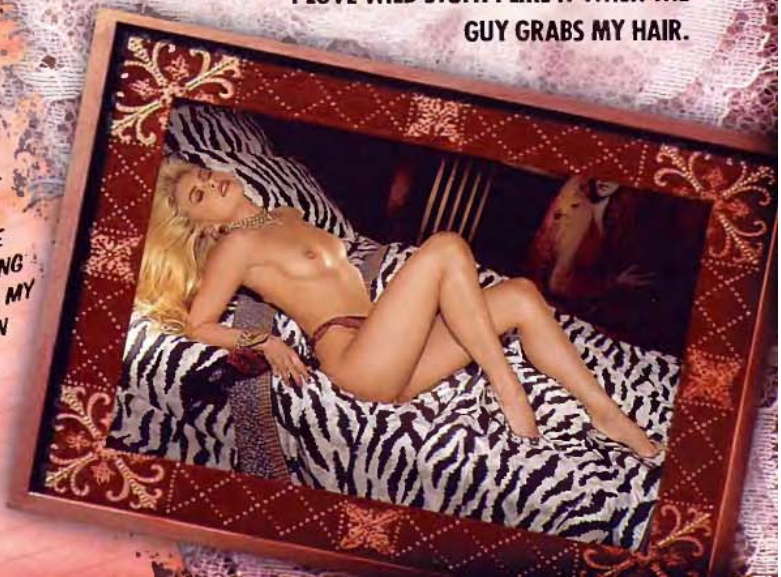
Elke Jeinsen

MY SEXUAL PERSONALITY

I REALLY LIKE SEX. I'M OLD-FASHIONED, THOUGH—I WON'T JUMP INTO BED WITH SOMEONE I'VE JUST MET. I'VE NEVER HAD A ONE-NIGHT STAND—ONLY LONG RELATIONSHIPS. IT ALWAYS TURNS OUT THE GUY FALLS IN LOVE WITH ME. THE BEST SEX IS WHEN YOU'RE FALLING IN LOVE, BECAUSE YOU HAVE BUTTERFLIES IN YOUR STOMACH AND YOUR KNEES SHAKE. A DAY LATER, YOU STILL THINK ABOUT THAT FIRST KISS. A GREAT KISS MAKES ME REALLY HORNY. WHEN I'M IN A RELATIONSHIP, I WANT SEX EVERY DAY—SOMETIMES THREE TIMES A DAY. I'M GOOD IN BED. EVERY GUY I'VE HAD A RELATIONSHIP WITH HAS BEEN LIKE, "WOW. DAMN. OH-OH-OH-OH." THEY ALWAYS TELL ME I'M THE BEST. SOME GUYS CAN'T KEEP UP. ONE BOYFRIEND CALLED ME A SEX ANIMAL. I LOVE WILD STUFF. I LIKE IT WHEN THE GUY GRABS MY HAIR.

What I Like

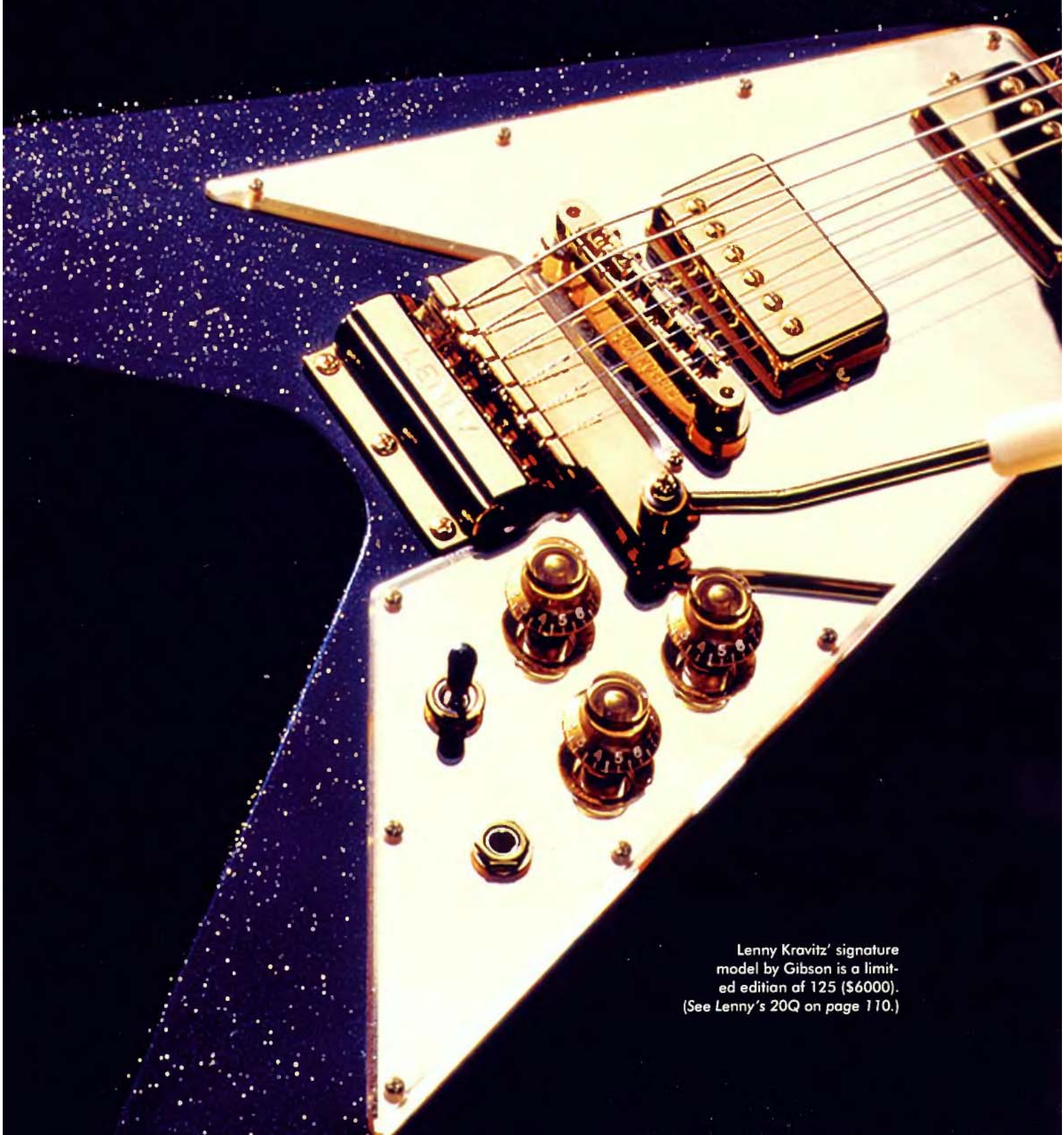
I'M VERY FLEXIBLE. I RIDE ALL OVER HIM. I LIKE TO SUCK HIS DICK. I ALSO LIKE TO DO IT FROM BEHIND, TO BE BLINDFOLDED AND NOT KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING. I LOVE IT WHEN HE COMES AT ME WITH A BIG VIBRATOR. IF I USE IT BY MYSELF, HE HAS TO WATCH. I LIKE TO GET A LITTLE NASTY. ONE GUY MADE ME COME WITH HIS TONGUE. THAT WAS SO GOOD. I ALSO LOVE BEING WOKEN UP WITH SEX. I LIKE TO BE SPANKED, BUT ONLY RIGHT BEFORE I COME SO IT DOESN'T HURT. I'M ALSO A GOOD SEX TALKER. I CALL MY BOYFRIEND AND SAY, "IMAGINE ME UNBUTTONING YOUR SHIRT. I'M NAKED AND KISSING YOUR STOMACH. I'M GRABBING YOUR COCK." ONE OF MY EX-BOYFRIENDS LIVES IN SPAIN. IF I CALL HIM WHEN HE'S DRIVING, I SAY, "I'M SO HORNY." HE HAS TO PULL OVER OR HE'LL CRASH.



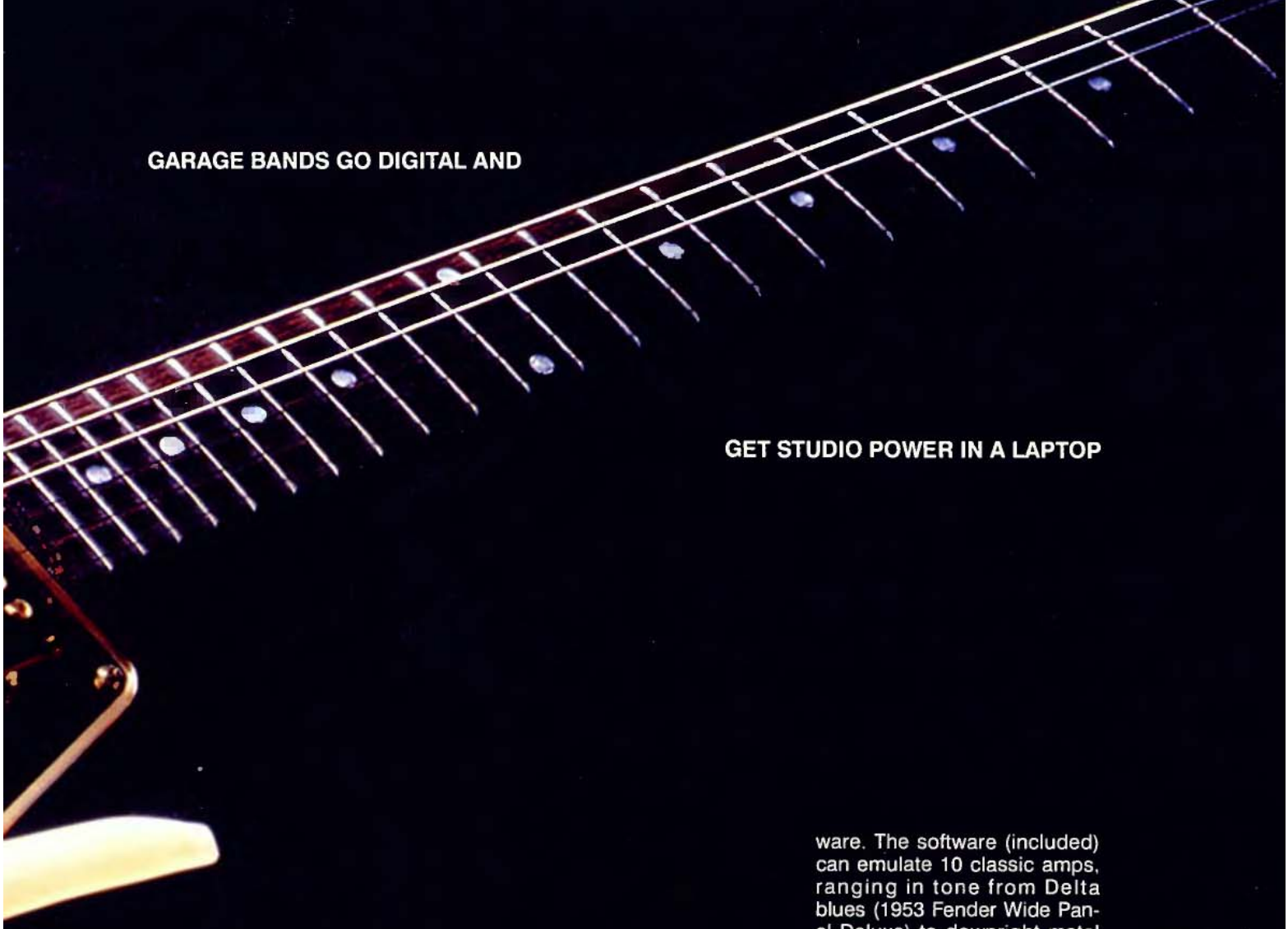
SEE MORE ELKE IN THE PLAYMATE VIDEO JUKEBOX AT CYBER.PLAYBOY.COM.

POWER CHORDS

By JASON BUHRMESTER



Lenny Kravitz' signature model by Gibson is a limited edition of 125 ($6000). (See Lenny's 20Q on page 110.)



GARAGE BANDS GO DIGITAL AND

GET STUDIO POWER IN A LAPTOP

Are computer nerds on the verge of taking over rock and roll? Not likely, although such computer jargon as USB port and processor speed has been popping up in music circles as frequently as talk of guitar cables and amp wattage. While that doesn't mean Bill Gates will replace Jimmy Page in posters on dorm room walls, it demonstrates the effect technology has on musicians and their gear. The latest equipment packed into garages and basement practice spaces includes portable digital recording studios that produce MP3s of a band's latest masterpiece and amplifiers that digitally replicate the sounds of hundreds of hard-to-find vintage amps. Home recording has benefited most from the computer boom. With little more than a laptop, a microphone and some software, aspiring musicians can record an entire album, mix it and burn it to CD. If practice hasn't made perfect, there are programs to splice together good takes, correct bad timing and even repair off-key playing and singing. The Guitar Port by Line 6 ($170) allows guitarists to plug directly into their computers without the need for an amp. The spaceship-shaped device connects to a USB port and features a jack for a guitar cord and a dial for adjusting volume. It's a perfect front end for recording software. The software (included) can emulate 10 classic amps, ranging in tone from Delta blues (1953 Fender Wide Panel Deluxe) to downright metal (1994 Mesa Boogie Dual Rectifier), and has effects such as reverb and delay, all in 24-bit audio quality. To help you pick out every bend and slide of the solo in *Purple Haze*, the software can play songs at half-tempo without changing the pitch. An optional membership to Guitar Port Online provides you with tips for setting your tone to match Hendrix'. Recording on a computer lacks one important feature: portability. Unless you plan to relocate your PC to the band's practice space (or move the band into your apartment), you'll want something movable. Portable recording studios solve this problem by allowing users to record on a device about the size of a large book. Technology has accommodated flexibility, too. The latest versions have ditched the cassette tape in favor of digital memory cards and big hard drives.

The 20-gigabyte memory of *(concluded on page 128)*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GEORGE GEORGIOU

BRITAIN'S BAD GIRL

forget soccer, this is england's world cup threat

TRUMPETS, please. Roll out the red carpet for the wildest party girl in the UK, pinup model Jordan. Last year, a newspaper poll named her the sexiest woman alive. Her carefree antics make national headlines, including *Jordan's Nude Girlie Romp, Lover: Jordan Is an Animal in Bed—Her Boobs Are to Die For* and *Jordan: I Pulled Pal off Lover so I Could Bed Him*. Newspaper editors say features about her spike circulation, and the BBC has twice followed Jordan around for a series of documentaries. She stood for Parliament in last year's general election. "I'm known as this glamour girl, a partyer, a man-eater who doesn't give a shit," she says. "And that's me. Every day someone in one of the papers writes something about me. Not all of it's good—most of it's bad. I say bad, but really it's just me being me." Here is one newspaper's description of Jordan being herself: "Vanessa, 25, told how Jordan squealed with delight as her bottom was spanked repeatedly with a whip and riding crop, how she French-kissed Vanessa as they thrilled each other with a sex toy." Oh, behave. "I haven't ever been a shy girl. I'm one of those people who will do anything on impulse. Over here people are always asking, 'What is she going to do next?' I'm mad, I am. Madwoman." It's easy to see why we took an instant liking to her.

Jordan seemingly appeared

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEPHEN WAYDA AND ARNY FREYTAG

out of nowhere. One day she was sitting in a dreary office, the next she was a national obsession. "It's a weird thing," she says. "I always say it's luck. When I finished nursing school I realized I didn't want to be a nurse—I wasn't cut out for that. So I started temping. One of my coworkers had a friend who was a photographer. During my lunch hour, they drove me down to Brighton Beach and took snapshots of me in a G-string. And that was it. We sent the photos to an agency, which took me on straightaway. The first job I did was Page Three, and it went on from there." Surely there is something in her personality that can explain why a nation has fallen for her. "I suppose I'm quite cheeky. Very cheeky. I'm open as well. I speak my mind. I'm a trusting person. I don't try to put on an act. I am what I am, take it or leave it." Now she can't leave the house without attracting a crowd of photographers and admirers. "I'm used to it. Let them have their picture. The thing is, I'm only 24—and every 24-year-old girl goes out clubbing. So when I come out of a club they get all these dodgy pictures of me, drunk or whatever. The fact is, I'm not going to let the press ruin my life. And that's what I think people find fascinating—that I don't give a shit. I just go out and do what I want—as Hef would know. He said I'm a wild child. He told me, 'God, you're a handful.' I really don't know if that's good or bad, actually." It sounds like the highest compliment—he's a man who has held more than his share of handfuls.

Here's something else that Hef can admire—Jordan's notoriety is loosening England's stiff upper lips. "I've got a line of sex toys coming out. The Jordan range—blow-up bondage chairs and vibrators." (It'll be available at jordanfanclub.co.uk.) We assume she has considerable experience with sex toys. "Who hasn't? Girls would be lying if they said they hadn't." So what's her favorite sex toy? "To each her own. It's far more sexy when you don't talk about it—you just do it. I would rather let the man wait and see what happens." Soon after her PLAYBOY shoot, Jordan got pregnant. "I'm having a

Jordan knows how to party. "Usually we have a bottle of white wine at home. Then we go straight to a bar, where they always have a table for us. We drink more, flirt." Her favorite drink? "God, I like everything. I always organize the shots—I make sure we all down one. Slippery nipples get you merry quickly." Particularly hers.

Jordan's real name is Katie Price. Some people see personality differences between Jordan and Katie. "I always say we're the same person. But my boyfriends say they hate Jordan and lave Katie. It's still me doing the photas. I mean, there are two sides to me, but at the end af the day Jordan is still me. I don't think you can just switch on and do what I do in front of the camera. It's natural—to me, anyway."

boy—and I wanted a boy. I couldn't have another one of me running around." Every kid has a right to be breast-fed. Doubtless, her son will have an inflated sense of the world. But motherhood won't slow her down. "I bought a farm in Brighton. I'm five minutes away from the beach. And I'm five minutes away from the countryside. So I'm lucky—because I'm quite a country girl. I have three horses. But I'm going to buy another place up in London, because that's where all the good partying is. And as a party girl, I can't keep away. And I'm getting into music as well—after I have the baby. I've got my studio time booked already. So if I don't get a single out this year, I definitely will by early next year. I've also made a promise to myself. I've never been one to go to the gym. But this time I want to get my body looking the best it's ever looked. I've joined a tennis club and a gym. I want to be the absolute bollocks." The first time she's out after the birth of her child, we predict anarchy in the UK.

TURN MORE PAGES WITH JORDAN AT CYBER.PLAYBOY.COM.

BOSS BR-1180CD

Create your entire album on Boss' BR-1180CD Digital Recording Studio. It can record, master and burn CDs on a built-in CD-RW drive ($1245).

LINE 6 GUITAR PORT

Can't quite learn the licks on Led Zeppelin's *Whole Lotta Love*? Connect the Guitar Port by Line 6 to your PC and play along while the included software slows Jimmy Page's fingers to half-speed without changing the pitch ($170).

YAMAHA SILENT GUITAR

Yamaha's line of silent instruments includes a violin, trumpet, bass and guitar. The SLG100N Silent Guitar ($700) plugs into headphones or an amplifier and has a mahogany neck and rosewood fingerboard.

TASCAM POCKETSTUDIO 5

The Pocketstudio 5 by Tascam includes 100 MIDI files for building tracks and can output the final stereo mix to an MP3 ($600).

FENDER CYBER-TWIN HEAD

Digital amps are a virtual warehouse of vintage gear. The Cyber-Twin Head by Fender can replicate the sound of 205 different amps, including 35 Fender models ($1500).

POWER CHORDS

(continued from page 117)

Boss' BR-1180CD 10-track Digital Recording Studio ($1245) stores recorded tracks, drum loops and effects. Once a song is completed, internal mastering tools give it a professional sound and burn it directly to CD on the CD-RW drive. Tascam's Pocketstudio 5 ($600) skips the CD and goes straight to MP3. The Pocketstudio records songs to Compact Flash memory cards and can output the final stereo mix in MP3 format via a USB port.

Computer equipment isn't confined to the basement recording studio. The latest guitar amplifiers can reconfigure their electronic architecture to deliver the tones of hundreds of hard-to-find vintage amps, all housed in one cabinet. The models in Fender's Cyber Series can replicate the sounds of 35 classic Fender amps and speaker cabinets. The collection spans more than 50 years of gear, such as the Bassman, Super Reverb and Champ. When combined with appropriately placed reverbs and other effects, they present 205 different playing options—including 85 presets designed with your favorite guitarist in mind.

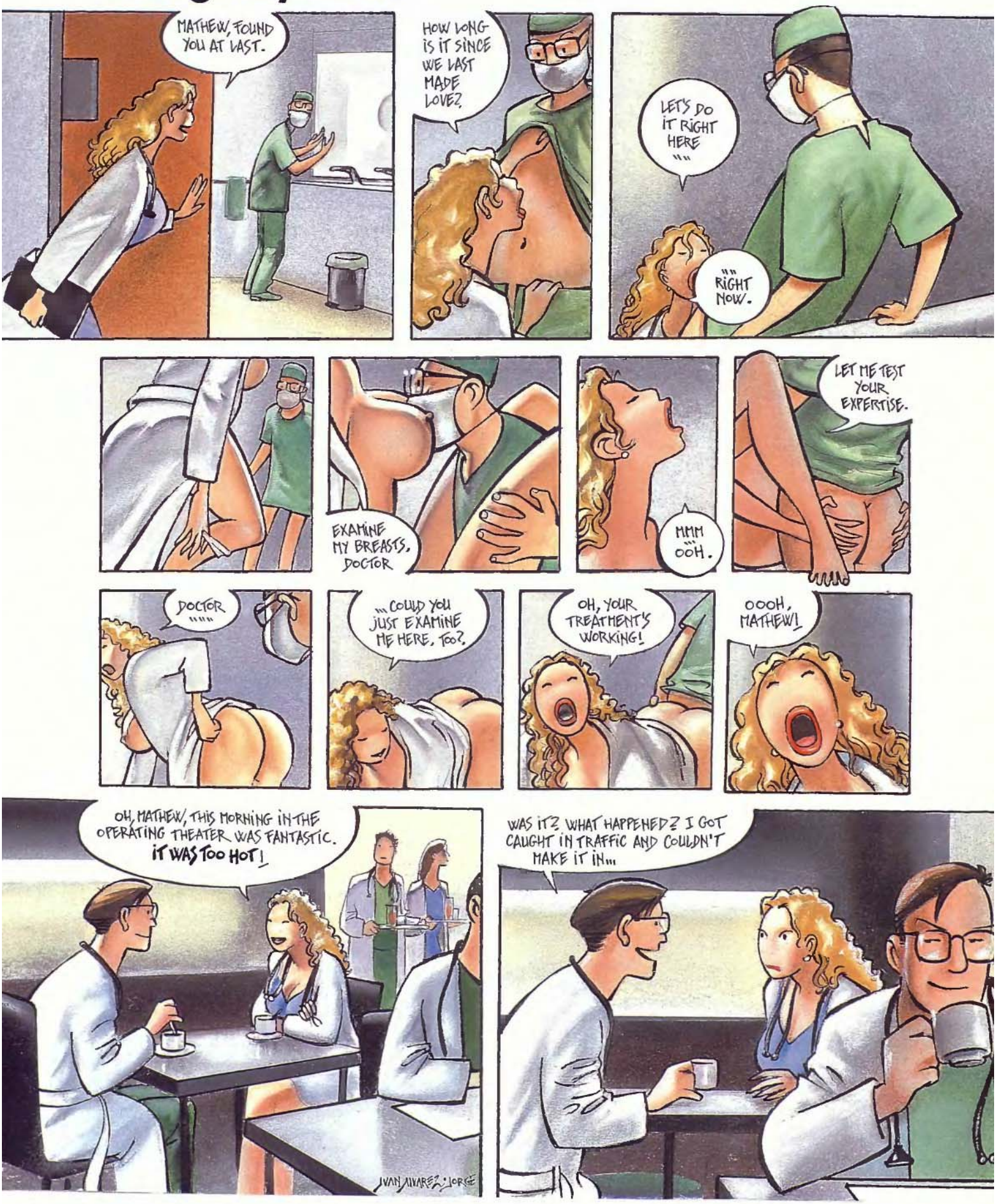
Not all of these amps are limited to one manufacturer's equipment. The Vetta ($1600) by Line 6 re-creates classic gear from Gibson, Vox, Marshall and Fender. It can replicate two amps, allowing guitarists to place the sound of Eric Clapton on the right and Stevie Ray Vaughan on the left.

Cranking an amp this powerful will not please people in your apartment building. If you live with a sound-sensitive landlord, your guitar may not be welcome, either. Yamaha's SLG100N Silent Guitar ($700) solves your problem by using electronic circuitry to simulate the sound of an acoustic instrument through headphones. It can also plug directly into an amp for live performance, a computer for recording or an external CD player so you can play along with your favorite band.

Technology can help even those who are limited to air guitar. Plug Music Playground's V-Pick virtual guitar ($40) into the USB port on your PC, start up the included software, select a song and play along by striking the pick in time against your favorite air guitar accessory (we prefer a tennis racket). The company recently released a Beatles edition that includes *Can't Buy Me Love*, *Hey Jude* and 23 other songs. Convince your roommate to play Ringo Starr on Music Playground's V-Stix virtual drum kit ($20) and you're halfway to rock star status.

WHERE AND HOW TO BUY ON PAGE 154

Emergency Room


MATHEW, FOUND YOU AT LAST.
HOW LONG IS IT SINCE WE LAST MADE LOVE?
LET'S DO IT RIGHT HERE "".
"" RIGHT NOW.
EXAMINE MY BREASTS, DOCTOR
MMM "" OOH.
LET ME TEST YOUR EXPERTISE.
DOCTOR ""
"... COULD YOU JUST EXAMINE ME HERE, TOO?
OH, YOUR TREATMENT'S WORKING!
OOOH, MATHEW!
OH, MATHEW, THIS MORNING IN THE OPERATING THEATER WAS FANTASTIC. IT WAS TOO HOT!
WAS IT? WHAT HAPPENED? I GOT CAUGHT IN TRAFFIC AND COULDN'T MAKE IT IN...
IVAN ALVAREZ & JORGE

FOOTBALL

(continued from page 106)

average in 2002, Smith will become the NFL's all-time leading rusher in the seventh game of the season at Arizona against the Cardinals on October 20.

NFC EAST

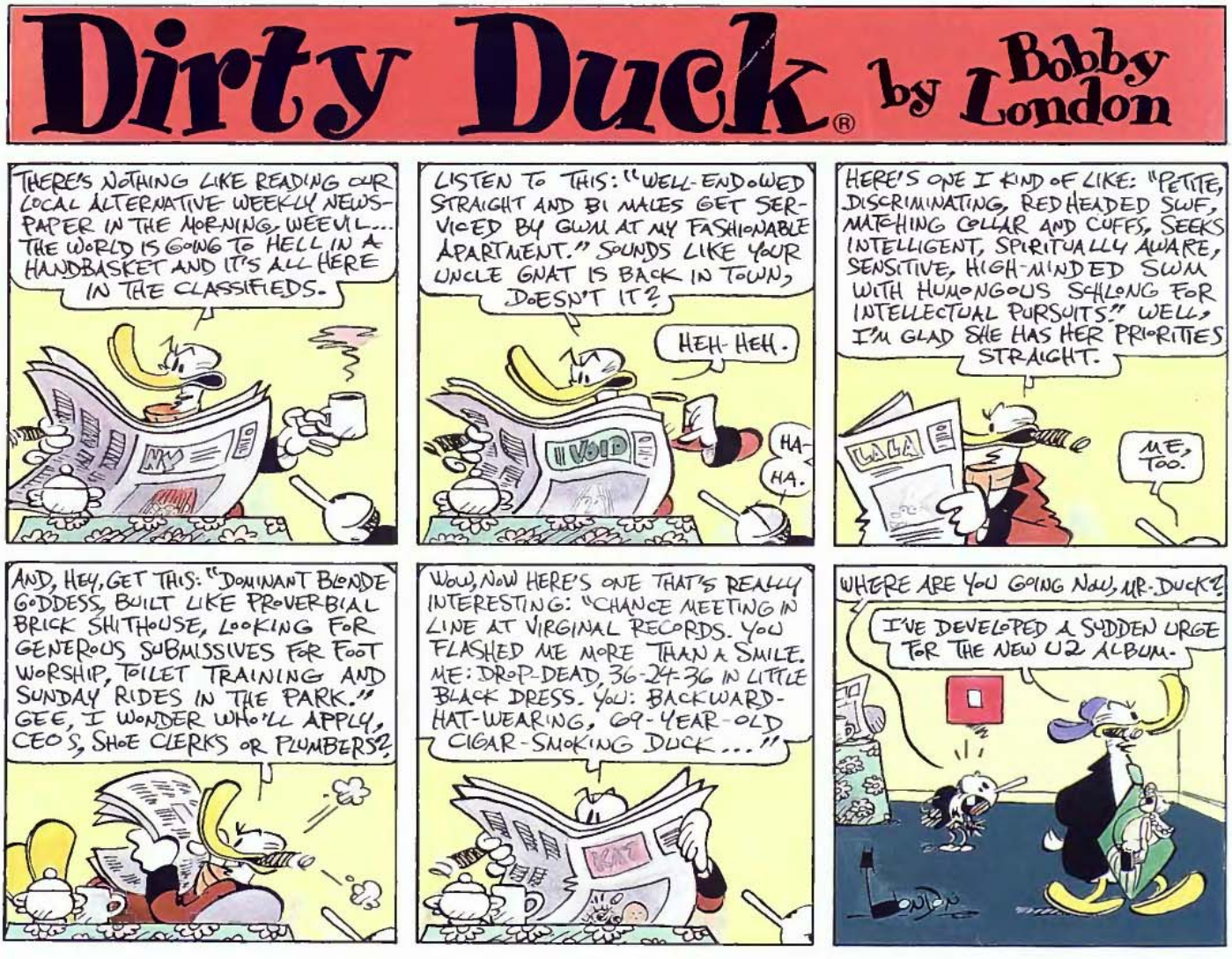
Dan Snyder is all about splash. He spent a record $800 million to buy the **Washington Redskins** in 1999. He signed future Hall of Famers Deion Sanders and Bruce Smith as free agents in 2000, then lured Marty Schottenheimer, one of the NFL's all-time winningest coaches, out of the ESPN studio to coach his team in 2001. The bigger the splash, the bigger the rush for Snyder. He loves diving into the deep end. So when Steve Spurrier resigned as head coach at the University of Florida in January, Snyder couldn't help himself. Less than two weeks after Spurrier left his alma mater, Snyder fired Schottenheimer. The next day, Snyder made Spurrier the NFL's highest-paid coach with a five-year, $25 million contract. Snyder wants to win. That's understandable. When you spend $800 million on a business, you want it to succeed. Spurrier has won. In 12 years at Florida he posted a 122-27-1 record, winning six SEC titles and a national championship. Snyder also wants to have fun. In the NFL, that means offensive football—big plays, big yards, big scores. Spurrier has fun. Never shy about running it up, Spurrier created the fun-and-gun offense that regularly hung half a hundred on overmatched foes—and some that weren't so overmatched. In his final game as coach of the Gators, Spurrier generated 56 points against top 10 foe Maryland in the Orange Bowl. Florida averaged 44 points per game in a 10–2 season. The Redskins, on the other hand, ranked 28th in the NFL in yards and points last season (and 30th in passing). This was a boring offensive football team, which is why Spurrier was summoned to perform CPR. Snyder wants, in no particular order, excitement, points and victories at FedEx Field.

But there are already skeptics. Spurrier is a warm-weather coach with a warm-weather offense. Washington, D.C. is a cold-weather town. So Spurrier won't be able to fling the ball to all corners of the field when winter creeps in after Thanksgiving. In college, his Gators might have seen an All-America cornerback once a month. In the NFL, he'll see two each week. In college, he had seasons when he played nine of 12 games in the state of Florida. He'll have to bring a suitcase to Washington.

"I can't respond to all the critics who are looking for reasons why we won't be successful," Spurrier says. "We've just got to go play and see what happens. It doesn't matter what I say until we play a game. People can write whatever they want. It's all fair. Until we go play, who knows what's going to happen?"

The largest obstacle looming for Spurrier this season is the **Philadelphia Eagles**, who ran away with the division last year and came within 30 minutes of reaching the Super Bowl. The Eagles have the best quarterback in the East in Donovan McNabb, but they lost their top defensive player when Pro Bowl middle linebacker Jeremiah Trotter bolted for Spurrier's Redskins in free agency. But with Hugh Douglas and Corey Simon, the Eagles can still rush the passer with the best. With Bobby Taylor and Troy Vincent, the Eagles can still cover with the best.

The **Dallas Cowboys** may be ready to reclaim their contender status after back-to-back 5–11 seasons. Free-agent signees


Dirty Duck®
by Bobby London
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE READING OUR LOCAL ALTERNATIVE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN THE MORNING, WEEVIL... THE WORLD IS GOING TO HELL IN A HANDBASKET AND IT'S ALL HERE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS.
LISTEN TO THIS: "WELL-ENDOWED STRAIGHT AND BI MALES GET SERVICED BY GUM AT MY FASHIONABLE APARTMENT." SOUNDS LIKE YOUR UNCLE GNAT IS BACK IN TOWN, DOESN'T IT?
HEH-HEH.
HA-HA.
HERE'S ONE I KIND OF LIKE: "PETITE, DISCRIMINATING, REDHEADED SWF, MATCHING COLLAR AND CUFFS, SEEKS INTELLIGENT, SPIRITUALLY AWARE, SENSITIVE, HIGH-MINDED SWM WITH HUMONGOUS SCHLONG FOR INTELLECTUAL PURSUITS." WELL, I'M GLAD SHE HAS HER PRIORITIES STRAIGHT.
LA-LA
ME, TOO.
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Are you losing your hair?

The biological effects of combined herbal oral and topical formulations on androgenetic alopecia

R. Ortiz, M.D., D.J. Carlisi, M.D., A. Imbriolo*

These studies (condensed version) were made possible by a collective effort of The Hair and Skin Treatment Center in combination with The New York Hair Clinic

ABSTRACT

This data represents the results of a 24 week controlled study which shows the positive biological effects, efficacy and safety of a combined, unique herbal oral therapy and topical solution on hair regrowth. Two hundred subjects (100 males and 100 females were enrolled in our study. A combination of herbal oral therapy and a special complex of herbal based topical formulation was evaluated. The topical formulation has special enhancers that significantly increase the rate of penetration into the scalp. On the average, active hair regrowth was noted with the combined therapy in over 95% of the patients as early as two to four months. No further hair loss was reported as early as one to two months. Long term follow up has shown no side effects and/or unwanted reactions. The results presented here provide evidence of the effectiveness, safety and the high degree of success achieved with this revolutionary modality. This therapeutic approach represents the latest and most advanced treatment in the management of androgenetic alopecia (hair loss) in both men and women.

HERBAL ORAL MEDICATION

Testosterone is a naturally occurring sex hormone (androgen), normally produced, mainly by the male testis with a small contribution from the adrenal glands in both men and women. For this reason it is found in higher concentrations in men as compared to women. It is the compound solely responsible for the male sex characteristics in man as opposed to estrogen and progesterone, the androgenic hormones determining the female sex. Through very complex biochemical pathways in the body some of Testosterone undergoes a series of transformations resulting in various compounds each with a different physiologic function in the body than the original hormone. One of the main compounds produced is dihydrotestosterone also known as DHT.

Accumulation of DHT within the hair follicle is considered to be the hormonal mediator of hair loss through its direct action on the androgenic receptors in human scalp tissue. Through an unknown mechanism, DHT appears to interrupt the normal physiologic environment and function of the hair follicles in the scalp resulting in the alteration of the general metabolism (normal hair growth). The final outcome of this interaction ranges from the partial destruction to the complete obliteration of hair follicles resulting in an increase dropout in the number of functional hair cells.

The organic extract of the herbal formulations tested acts at the level of the cytosolic androgenic receptor of the scalp in a direct competitive manner with DHT. It works as a natural androgenic blocker, by inhibiting the active binding of DHT to the hair follicle receptor thereby modulating its effects and decreasing the amount of follicle damage and hair loss.

HERBAL BASED TOPICAL FORMULATION

A special herbal topical medication was exclusively designed by experts in our institution. This revolutionary and unique development represents the latest and most advance treatment modality for patterned baldness currently available anywhere. This medicinal complex consists of of a specific blend of natural herbs in combination with a variety of penetrating agents (enhancers) which improves the penetration rate to the affected site. In addition a carefully selected combination of minerals, vitamins, amino acids and known hair growers was added in order to provide the basic nutrients necessary for the metabolism of healthy follicular development.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

Two hundred volunteer patients consisting of one hundred men and one hundred women exhibiting pattern baldness were enrolled in the study. The severity of hair loss ranged from stage I to the most advance stage IV on the Hamilton scale. Each participant was subjected to a thorough physical examination and a complete medical history was taken. All patients were in apparent good health and none have been previously involved in any studies or treatment as this type. The age range was 18-65 years. The mean age for men in years with their standard deviation was 32.1 + 9.1 and 37.7 + 12.9 in women. The total duration of the study was six months.

RESULTS

The overall outcome of this therapeutic modality has proved to be an extremely beneficial treatment approach in the management of androgenic alopecia (hair loss). There was a significant difference in the rate of hair loss and regrowth noted between males and females. A dramatic decrease in the rate of excessive hair loss and fallout was noted in most patients after the first 1-2 months of treatment. In women exclusively, this was evident as early as 2-4 weeks. Actual regrowth of hair was usually seen on the average within 2-4 months in > 95% males and within 2-3 months in > 98% females (figure 1). Thickening and lengthening of hair throughout the scalp occurred in all patients over the course of the study.

* Herbal Medicine Consultant

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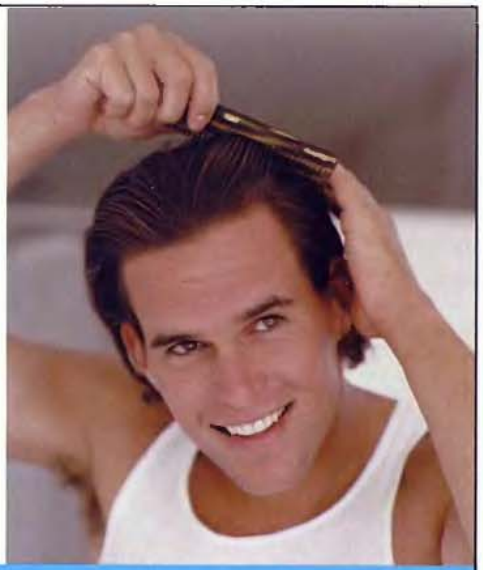

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La'Roi Glover, Kevin Hardy and Bryant Westbrook and first-round draft pick Roy Williams fortify a top five defense. Emmitt Smith is closing in on the NFL rushing record, but he's 33 and the offense is moving in the direction of quarterback Quincy Carter's playmaking skills.

Jim Fassel has coveted a pass-catching tight end since he hired on as **New York Giants** head coach in 1997. He finally acquired one in first-round draft pick Jeremy Shockey. But can the Giants protect Kerry Collins long enough for him to find Shockey, Ike Hilliard, Amani Toomer or any other receiver? Three starters on the offensive line are gone, including Pro Bowl guard Ron Stone and past Pro Bowl tackle Lomas Brown. Pro Bowl linebacker Jessie Armstead also became a salary-cap casualty. Like Trotter, he signed with Spurrier's Redskins.

NFC NORTH

The best team in the new NFC North is open for debate: Chicago or Green Bay. But there is no debate about the best player in the division. That's wide receiver Randy Moss, when he chooses to be. The **Minnesota Vikings** gave Moss an eight-year, $75 million contract a year ago and the return on their investment was his worst season in four as a pro. He did catch a career-high 82 passes, but he posted career lows in yardage (1233), average (15) and touchdowns (10). The NFL's premiere game-breaker broke open few games and the Vikings slumped to 5–11, a collapse that cost coach Dennis Green his job. Moss groused all season and finally admitted in November that he only plays when he wants to play—and his wasn't an all-the-time commitment. New coach Mike Tice sought out the source of his star player's disenchantment in the off-season, asking receivers coach Charlie Baggett to research Moss' workload. The Vikings threw Moss 40 percent of the passes in only five games, but won four of them. The lone loss was a 21–16 December cliff-hanger at Pittsburgh against the eventual AFC Central champions. Moss caught eight passes for 144 yards and a touchdown that day against one of the NFL's best defenses. Tice reached an obvious conclusion based on Baggett's research. "When we throw the ball in Randy's direction, we win football games," Tice says. "His whole deal is frustration. He feels like he can control the flow of the game, and that study proved it to me. I think everyone here is looking for Randy to be more content. He wants to make an impact. We're paying him a lot of money, and we understand he can control the flow of the game. Randy seems content to know that he's going to be the focal point of our offense."

But Moss doesn't play defense—and that's Minnesota's problem. The Vikings have ranked 27th or worse in defense for the past three years. Minnesota lost its best linebacker (Kailee Wong), cornerback (Dale Carter) and safety (Robert Griffith) to free agency. If the Vikings can't slow down opposing offenses in 2002, it won't matter how many receptions, yards and touchdowns Moss can accumulate. This team isn't going anywhere.

With Brett Favre turning 33 this season, the **Green Bay Packers'** chances for a championship are diminishing. So the Pack approached the off-season with a greater sense of urgency, making moves aimed at producing immediate dividends. Green Bay signed Pro Bowl defensive end Joe Johnson to improve a passive pass rush and traded for speedy wide receiver Terry Glenn to give Favre a deep threat. Halfback Ahman Green and tight end Bubba Franks provide Favre offensive options.

The **Chicago Bears** had a magical season in 2001 with a journeyman quarterback (Jim Miller), winning 13 games and their first division title in 11 years. Youngsters Brian Urlacher at middle linebacker, Anthony Thomas at running back and Marty Booker at wide receiver emerged as elite players. But duplicating that success in 2002 will be difficult, because the Bears have 16 road games. While Soldier Field is being renovated, Chicago will play its home schedule two hours down the road at the University of Illinois.

Hall of Fame quarterback Bobby Layne provided the spit and fire for a Detroit franchise that won three NFL titles in the Fifties. He went to his last Pro Bowl in 1957. In the 45 years since then, only one quarterback from the **Detroit Lions** has been invited to a Pro Bowl—Greg Landry in 1972. Any wonder the Lions haven't won an NFL title since the Layne era? The Lions took Oregon quarterback Joey Harrington with the third overall pick of the 2002 draft. Let the rebuilding begin.

NFC SOUTH

The NFL off-season buzz focused on the dismantling of the once-mighty **Baltimore Ravens.** The salary cap forced the Ravens to cut nine starters in March. Another starter (linebacker Jamie Sharper) left for Houston in the expansion draft and yet another departed in free agency (cornerback Duane Starks). Now only eight starters remain from the team that captured a Super Bowl just 19 games ago.

But the salary cap is not a problem unique to the Ravens. The **New Orleans Saints** were also one of the best teams in the NFL in 2000, winning the NFC West and advancing to the final eight in the playoffs. But 10 starters have since left that team, including veteran Pro Bowlers Willie Roaf, La'Roi Glover, Joe Johnson and Keith Mitchell. All departed last off-season, along with leading rusher Ricky Williams, who was traded to Miami.

"You can count on eight to 10 changes on your football team every year because either you don't or can't re-sign them," Atlanta Falcons coach Dan Reeves says. "It's difficult to keep even your top players because you have to pay them so much money, particularly if you have success. Baltimore won a Super Bowl. We went to a Super Bowl. There is no way you can keep them all. So you lose them. It's automatic. There's a big turnover every year."

The Saints were ready to embrace change after their collapse down the stretch in 2001. New Orleans lost its final four games, including three at home, to end up with a 7–9 record. Coach Jim Haslett attempted to deal from the same

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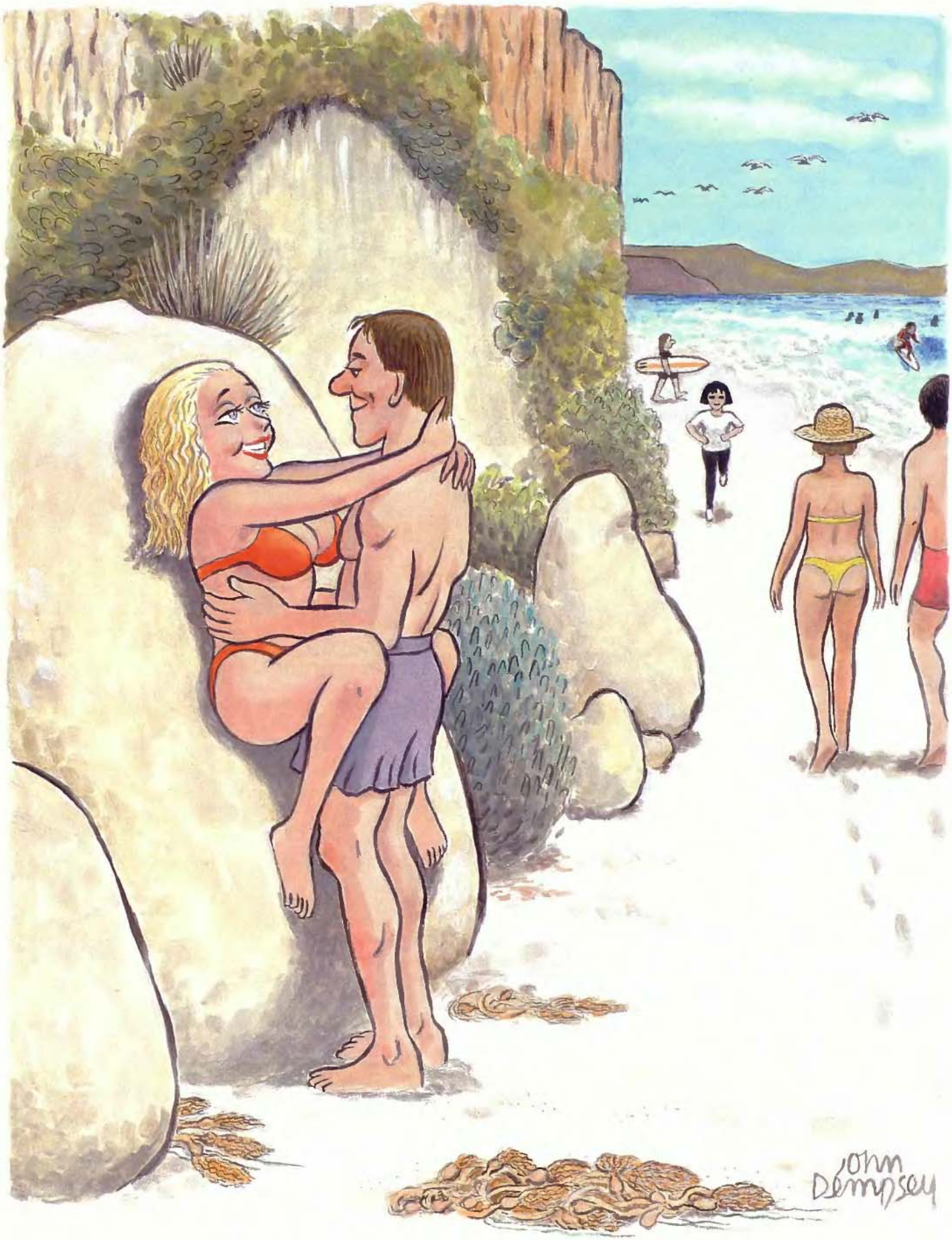

"Never thought I'd enjoy being stuck between a rock and a hard place."

deck in 2001, but the cards weren't there. The Saints couldn't stop the run last season, so they let pass rushers Glover and Johnson go and brought in widebodies Grady Jackson in free agency and Charles Grant in the draft. The Saints also needed bigger plays on offense, so they traded Williams to create a lineup opening for Deuce McAllister and drafted wide receiver Donte Stallworth in the first round. Both can stretch the field. Stallworth walks in as one of the fastest players in the NFL, with a 4.29-second speed in the 40-yard dash.

With Aaron Brooks taking the snaps in New Orleans, the Saints have the most stable quarterbacking in the division. That should mark them as the favorites in the new NFC South. But keep an eye on the **Atlanta Falcons,** who are quarterbacked by Brooks' cousin Michael Vick. Vick was the first overall pick of the 2001 NFL draft, but the Falcons forgot to play him, allowing aging Chris Chandler to pass Atlanta to a nonplayoff finish. Vick threw only 113 passes and sat out half the games. It was a wasted season, but 2002 won't be. The Falcons cut Chandler and have turned the offense over to the arms and legs of Vick. He still rushed for almost 300 yards in limited action last season. He can hand off the ball to newcomers Warrick Dunn and T.J. Duckett, but he lacks an elite receiver.

The **Tampa Bay Buccaneers** are selling the coaching genius of Jon Gruden this season. They have little else to sell. The Buccaneers took hits in free agency, losing Dunn, deep threat Jacquez Green and middle linebacker Jamie Duncan. And they didn't have any premium picks in the draft because they traded their first- and second-round picks to Oakland for the right to hire Gruden away from the Raiders.

The George Seifert experiment didn't work, so the **Carolina Panthers** have moved to John Fox as head coach. He was the coordinator of a defense that carried the New York Giants to the NFC championship in 2000. Fox is hoping number one pick Julius Peppers can become to his Panthers what Michael Strahan was to his Giants. With his rookie season behind him, Chris Weinke ought to be much improved at quarterback. Number two draft pick DeShaun Foster gives the Panthers a chance to run the ball.

NFC WEST

The **San Francisco 49ers** were the NFL's team of the decade for the Eighties, with four Super Bowl championships. The 49ers may have been a better team in the Nineties, when they won an NFL-record 113 games. But, with only a single Lombardi Trophy, they were not a better championship team in the Nineties.

In the Eighties the 49ers were the hunted. Since then they have become the hunters. The 49ers might have won three consecutive Super Bowls in the early Nineties had the Dallas Cowboys not been standing in their way in the NFC. Later in the decade, the Green Bay Packers were in the way with three consecutive playoff victories (1995–1997) over the 49ers. And now it's the St. Louis Rams.

The 49ers won 12 games in 2001, and still finished two games behind the Rams in the NFC West. St. Louis now has won the NFC title in two of the past three seasons, winning the Super Bowl in 1999 and losing it in 2001. But that 20–17 setback at the hands of the New England Patriots last February doesn't make the Rams appear any less vulnerable to the 49ers.

"I think everyone still feels the Rams are the team to beat," 49ers coach Steve Mariucci says. "The league is hoping and waiting for the Rams to fall apart a little bit and go through some salary cap woes like we did, Dallas did, Jacksonville, Baltimore—where a good team loses good players because they can't afford to keep them all. But they've been able to keep a good team together for several years in a row, which is a little unusual in the salary cap age." But the process has begun. The Rams lost their leading tackler (middle linebacker London Fletcher) and starting offensive tackle (Rod Jones) last off-season to free agency. Deep snapper Jeff Robinson and punt returner Az Hakim also signed for more money elsewhere. The 49ers, on the other hand, have strengthened a 12–4 team. They have become deeper at cornerback with the selection of Mike Rumph with their number one pick. They're stronger on the offensive line with the free-agent signing of Pro Bowl guard Ron Stone. San Francisco was one of the youngest teams in the NFL last year and the 49ers return 20 starters. "You have to build your team to win your division," Mariucci says. "Maybe the best team in football is in our division. If we can beat the Rams, we should be in pretty good shape."

The problem for the 49ers—and for everyone else in the NFC, for that matter—is the playmaking ability of Kurt Warner, Marshall Faulk, Isaac Bruce and Torry Holt of the **St. Louis Rams.** Warner and Faulk have combined to win the past three NFL MVP awards, and both Bruce and Holt have led the league in receiving yards. St. Louis also became the first team in NFL history to score 500 points in three consecutive seasons. If this offensive cast can stay healthy, the Rams are indeed the team to beat in 2002.

The **Seattle Seahawks** move into a new conference and stadium this season. But the Seahawks bring defensive deficiencies from their AFC days—and this is not the division to be in with defensive flaws. The Rams and 49ers both have Pro Bowl quarterbacks and top five offenses itching for a shot at Seattle's 23rd-ranked pass defense. But the Seahawks have the right quarterback (Trent Dilfer) and running back (Shaun Alexander) to exercise

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ball control and protect that defense.

The **Arizona Cardinals** didn't have much success over the years in the NFC East, qualifying for the playoffs just once in the last 19 years. So a move to any other division figures to benefit them. The Cardinals spent the off-season building up their defense for the NFC West, signing free-agent cornerback Duane Starks away from the Baltimore Ravens and drafting tackle Wendell Bryant with a first-round pick.

AFC EAST

No team has changed its profile this off-season as dramatically as the **Buffalo Bills.** Adding a quarterback who has taken snaps in Pro Bowls and Super Bowls will do that in this era of quick turnarounds. The St. Louis Rams went from worst to first in 1999, and the New England Patriots did it in 2001. New quarterbacks triggered both championship runs. With the arrival of Drew Bledsoe, the dream is alive in Buffalo for a worst-to-first transformation in 2002.

"That is part of our message—why can't it be us this year?" Bills coach Gregg Williams says. "But there's more than just that slogan. You have to prove it on the field. We still have a long way to go, but we're looking forward to getting onto the field and proving it."

The Bills were 3–13 last season, but they were one of the youngest teams in the NFL. Thirty-one of their 53 players had been in the league two years or less. Williams played that youth—at times he used eight rookie starters—and the young players improved as the season progressed. The highlight was a December road upset of the playoff-bound New York Jets.

Now Buffalo has had a second solid draft under general manager Tom Donahoe, patching holes along the offensive (tackle Mike Williams) and defensive (end Ryan Denney) lines and adding one of the draft's top playmakers, all-American wide receiver Josh Reed. Bledsoe also inherits a couple of Pro Bowl weapons in fullback Larry Centers and wide receiver Eric Moulds. But the arrival of Bledsoe has been the thrust of the optimism. He has had two 4000-yard passing seasons in his nine-year career. He also has been to three Pro Bowls and directed the Pats to the 1997 Super Bowl.

Bledsoe lost his starting job in 2001 when he was hurt in the second game of the season. When he returned almost two months later, Tom Brady was having a Pro Bowl year at the position. Bledsoe did play in the AFC title game when Brady was injured and threw a TD pass in a 24–17 victory over Pittsburgh. At 30, there are still plenty of passes left in his arm. "Drew has lit a fire that was lacking from a 3–13 season," Williams says. "Everyone's step has pepped up around here. The fact that Drew can play at a high level helps our confidence."

The Super Bowl champion **New England Patriots** were a triumph of coaching. The big-money players under the New England salary cap—Bledsoe, Terry Glenn, Willie McGinest and Ted Johnson—became bit players on the 2001 Patriots. Coach Bill Belichick had a plan and the Tom Bradys, Troy Browns, Antowain Smiths and Bobby Hamiltons executed it. No one saw the Patriots coming in 2001. They will in 2002.

If only Dan Marino had had a running back all those seasons in Florida. Marino was the best passer in football, but the **Miami Dolphins** couldn't run the ball. Miami had only one 1000-yard rusher during Marino's 17-year career (Karim Abdul-Jabbar in 1996). The Dolphins finally addressed that problem last off-season, trading for Heisman winner Ricky Williams. It's too late for Marino, but not for Jay Fiedler.

The **New York Jets** were surprise playoff qualifiers in 2001 under first-year coach Herman Edwards. But seven starters departed in the off-season, including both starting cornerbacks. The Jets still have Curtis Martin, who rushed for an NFL runner-up 1513 yards. But quarterback Vinny Testaverde is a year older at 38. Chad Pennington waits in the wings, but he shows signs of rust as he enters his third season without any significant playing time.

AFC NORTH

Carmen Policy and Dwight Clark didn't study the history of the **Cleveland Browns** when they assumed control of the expansion franchise in 1999. Whether it was Paul Brown or Blanton Collier or Marty Schottenheimer coaching the Browns, the formula for success remained constant through the decades: Run to win. But Policy and Clark tried to re-create San Francisco on Lake Erie with aerial football. They hired a pass-oriented head coach (Chris Palmer) and drafted a quarterback (Tim Couch) with the first pick in the new Browns' history. They also used premium choices on wide receivers Kevin Johnson, Dennis Northcutt and Quincy Morgan. Lost in the offensive focus was the team's ground game. Cleveland hasn't ranked higher than 30th in the NFL in rushing in its first three seasons—and the Browns managed to win only 12 of their first 48 games. To succeed in Cleveland, you must be able to run the ball when the ground freezes in November and December. It took new Browns coach Butch Davis just a year to figure that out. In his first season on the job in 2001, Davis presided over the NFL's worst rushing attack. The Browns averaged 3.2 yards per carry and less than 85 yards per game. Remembering what Emmitt Smith meant to Dallas when he was assistant coach during the Cowboys' Super Bowl era, Davis realized he needed his own Jim Brown or Emmitt Smith.

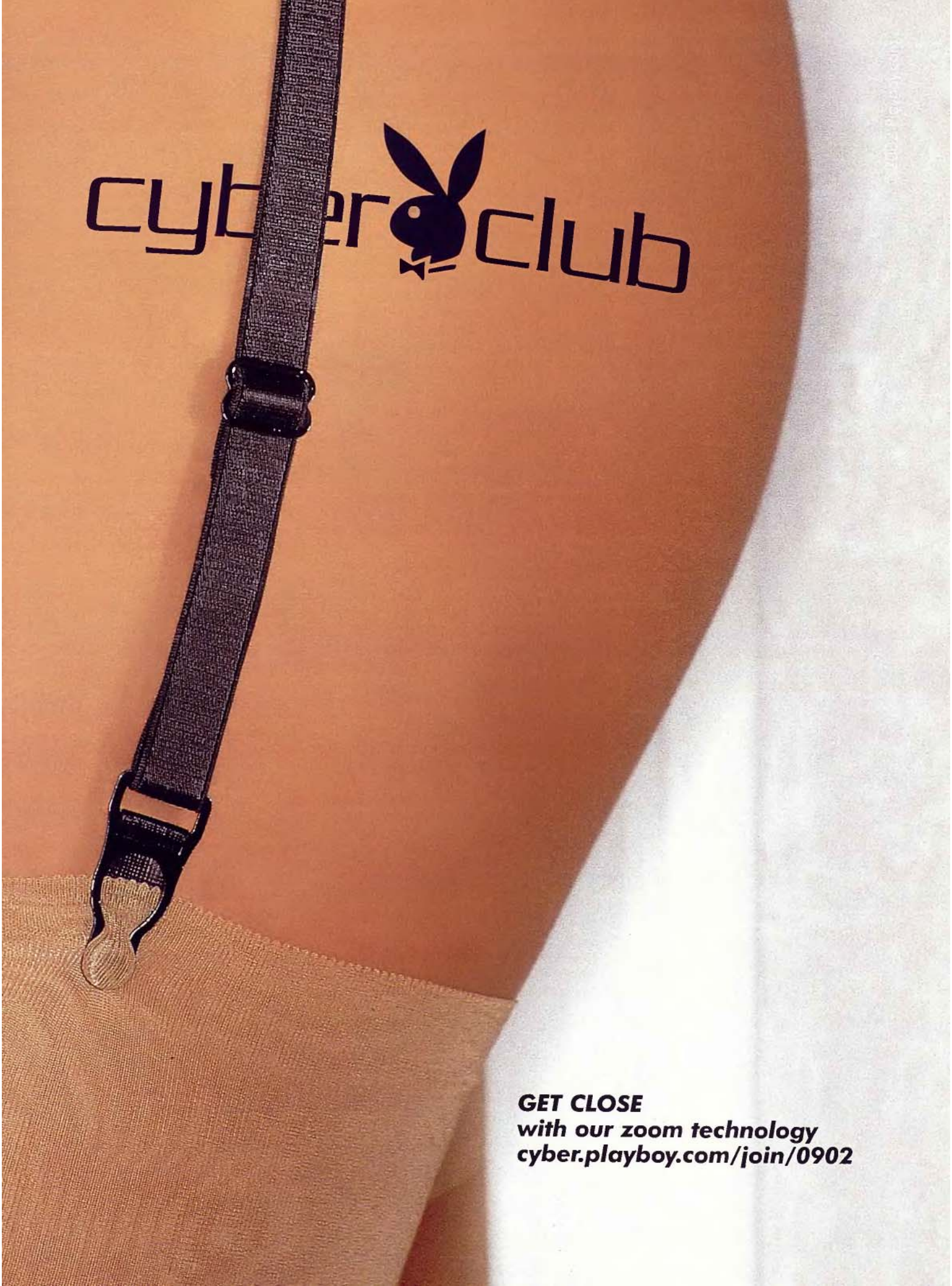
So the Browns used their number one pick last April on a running back, 1500-yard rusher William Green of Boston College. He slid to the Browns on the 16th pick because of a lack of speed. That's the same rap that pushed Smith down to the Cowboys at the 17th pick of the 1990 draft.

"You didn't see 75- or 80-yard runs with Emmitt," Davis says. "But what you saw was an awful lot of five- to 25-yard runs. Green had a ton of those move-the-chain runs, too. Like Emmitt, there were some long runs—and fast guys that run 4.3 and 4.4 didn't catch him. With his vision, his ability to slash and cut back—there are some definite comparisons with Emmitt."

The first running back taken in the previous three NFL drafts—Edgerrin James in 1999, Jamal Lewis in 2000 and LaDainian Tomlinson in 2001—rushed for more than 1200 yards as rookies. If Green can give the Browns 1200 yards in his first season, he could loom as the final piece to Cleveland's playoff puzzle. When the Browns have been able to run the ball in the past, they generally play into January.

The **Pittsburgh Steelers** can run the ball. They led the NFL in rushing last season. The Steelers also can play defense. They led the NFL there, too. But a couple of special-teams breakdowns in the AFC championship game—New England touchdowns on a punt return and a blocked punt—cost the Steelers a

"Oh, I can still fly OK. What I said was, I can't get it up."



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trip to the Super Bowl last season. Nineteen starters return from a Pittsburgh team that won 13 games. The Steelers brought in a new coach (Kevin Spencer), kicker (Todd Peterson) and returner (rookie Antwaan Randle El) to fix their special teams.

Among the 12 starters departing the **Baltimore Ravens** in the off-season were their leading passer (Elvis Grbac), rusher (Terry Allen), receiver (Qadry Ismail) and interceptor (Duane Starks)—along with Pro Bowlers Shannon Sharpe, Sam Adams, Rod Woodson and Jermaine Lewis. What the Ravens didn't lose was coach Brian Billick's sense of humor. "My seniors graduated," mused Billick of his ravaged roster, "and a bunch of my juniors came out early."

The **Cincinnati Bengals** have quietly built a competitive team under defensive-minded head coach Dick LeBeau. All 11 starters return from a top 10 defense, and 1300-yard rusher Corey Dillon gives the Bengals a hammer on offense. But the quarterback position remains the problem. Gus Frerotte could be Cincinnati's sixth different starter there in six seasons.

AFC SOUTH

Building a football team from scratch is new to Bob McNair, veteran horseman that he is. It's also new to Charley Casserly, whose only other stint as a NFL general manager was with one of the oldest, most storied franchises in league history (Washington). But building a team from scratch isn't new to Dom Capers, who works for McNair and Casserly as the first head coach of the **Houston Texans.** His one previous stint as an NFL head coach was with another start-up franchise, the Carolina Panthers. So McNair supplies the money, Casserly the players and Capers the know-how for this franchise. Lessons learned at Carolina can now be put into place in Houston. The Panthers were a model for quick but short-lived success. Carolina built a veteran defense to carry the team as young offensive players learned how to win games. Inside of two seasons the Panthers were playing in the conference title game. But the old defense aged quickly and the young offensive playmakers never came around, so the Panthers flamed out as Super Bowl contenders. Capers was fired after four seasons. The experience taught him a valuable lesson—expansion teams should build for the future, not for the present. "We have a much younger team here, I can tell you that," Capers says. "We have a good mix now, especially on offense. We have some young players with a chance to ascend." The Texans assembled their offensive and defensive lines in the expansion draft and free agency, bringing in veteran NFL starters Tony Boselli, Ryan Young and Steve McKinney on offense and Jabari Issa, Seth Payne and Gary Walker on defense. In the expansion draft the Texans also claimed two cornerbacks who started on a 2001 playoff team (the New York Jets)—native Texans Marcus Coleman and Aaron Glenn. Houston stocked its skill positions in the college draft, selecting quarterback David Carr with the first overall pick, then adding running backs Jonathan Wells and Jarrod Baxter and wide receiver Jabar Gaffney. Which brings us to the most important lesson Capers brought with him from Carolina. "You have to be patient early on," Capers says. "You just don't slap together a team and go out and make the playoffs."

Patience will not be a strong suit of the **Indianapolis Colts** this season. The Colts have one of the most explosive offenses in football with playmakers Peyton Manning, Edgerrin James and Marvin Harrison. The team generated 413 points last season, second in the NFL. But the Colts allowed a league-high 486 points on defense, which meant Indy didn't make the playoffs. So Colts general manager Bill Polian fired coach Jim Mora and replaced him with Tony Dungy, one of the game's best defensive minds. If the Colts can allow just a touchdown less per game, they'll be Super Bowl contenders.

A defensive collapse also doomed the **Tennessee Titans** last season. When they led the NFL in defense in 2000, the Titans won 13 games. When they tumbled to 25th in defense in 2001, they won six fewer games and fell out of the playoff ranks. The Titans spent the off-season trying to fix the NFL's worst pass defense, signing Pro Bowl safety Lance Schulters in free agency and drafting safety Tank Williams and cornerbacks Mike Echols and Tony Beckham.

All coach Tom Coughlin wants from his **Jacksonville Jaguars** is a healthy season. The Jaguars led the NFL in games missed by starters because of injury each of the past two years, which meant the Jaguars didn't make the playoffs both times. Last season Jacksonville lost 66 games by starters because of injury, which produced a 6–10 finish. Fred Taylor is one of the NFL's best runners but has lost more than a third of his career—24 of a possible 64 games—to injuries.

AFC WEST

The **San Diego Chargers** will not lose because of Marty Schottenheimer and likely will win because of Drew Brees.

Schottenheimer has been a head coach in the NFL for 16 years. In only one of those seasons did he lose more games than he won—1998, when his Kansas City Chiefs finished 7–9. He walked away from coaching after that season, taking a two-year hiatus. Schottenheimer returned in 2001 at Washington and, with Tony Banks as his quarterback, rallied from 0–5 to finish 8–8. It was his only season with the Redskins—Dan Snyder fired him because he didn't win enough. Eight victories with Tony Banks as quarterback will get you a contract extension in most NFL cities.

Though quarterbacking has never been a strength of Schottenheimer teams, he still has won 158 games in his coaching career, 10th-best in NFL history. He posted the best record in the AFC in 1995 with Steve Bono as his quarterback and did it again in 1997 with Elvis Grbac. He won a division title with an aging Joe Montana in 1993, and also coached Kansas City to the playoffs with Steve DeBerg taking the snaps. The best quarterback

GUILTY PLEASURES
Meaty MYTHS
LOVERS LEAP
OOH... AAAAH... OOH!
SOB!
I NEVER DID THIS BEFORE AND I HAVE A TERRIBLE GUILT ABOUT SEX! I DON'T KNOW HOW I'LL LOOK MYSELF IN THE MIRROR AFTER WHAT WE DID TWICE TONIGHT!
TWICE? WE ONLY DID IT ONCE!
SNIFF... SHOULDN'T WE STOP AGAIN ON THE WAY HOME?

Schottenheimer has ever been around was a young Bernie Kosar at Cleveland in the Eighties. But Kosar was a better field general than a passer. Brees is the best young quarterback Schottenheimer has been around since Kosar.

"Drew has every bit the intellect that Bernie had, which was one of Bernie's strengths, plus he has more mobility," Schottenheimer says. "This kid is going to be special. He has great poise. He has an air about him, a swagger, that all the good ones have." Brees was San Diego's number two draft pick in 2001, but he sat and watched Doug Flutie play the position all year. In his only action, Brees relieved an injured Flutie in a November game against Kansas City and completed 15 of 27 passes for 221 yards and a touchdown. He rallied the Chargers from a 19–0 deficit into the lead, but the San Diego defense couldn't hold on in the final minutes. In his last five seasons as a starting quarterback—two in high school and three at Purdue—Brees posted a 52–13–1 record. He left Purdue as the Big Ten's all-time leading passer. In a quarterback-driven league, Brees gives Schottenheimer a chance for a longer tenure in San Diego than he had in Washington.

The **Oakland Raiders** also have a new coach. The team promoted offensive coordinator Bill Callahan when Tampa sent four premium draft picks and $8 million for Jon Gruden. The salary cap has made the NFL a young man's game, but the Raiders remain defiant. They are one of the NFL's oldest teams, with eight starters in their 30s—including quarterback Rich Gannon (36) and wide receivers Jerry Rice (39) and Tim Brown (36). Two first-round draft picks—cornerback Phillip Buchanon and linebacker Napoleon Harris—bring youth and skill to the defense.

The **Denver Broncos** haven't won a playoff game since allowing all-decade tight end Shannon Sharpe to leave as a free agent in 2000. So the Broncos brought him back this season. Denver also could use a healthy Terrell Davis, who rushed for 2008 yards in 1998 when the Broncos won their last Super Bowl. But he has missed 31 games in the three seasons since then with a variety of knee injuries and has rushed for only 1194 yards.

The **Kansas City Chiefs** focused on offense in Dick Vermeil's first season as head coach in 2001. Priest Holmes won the NFL rushing title to spark a top five offense. But Trent Green struggled at quarterback, throwing more interceptions (24) than touchdowns (17), and the Chiefs labored on defense, in particular against the run. Kansas City claimed two of the top five defensive tackles in the 2002 draft—Ryan Sims and Eddie Freeman. But with five home losses last season, the Arrowhead mystique is gone.

STEVE SPURRIER

(continued from page 88)

invitations to speak to civic clubs. He was invited, once, by an alum to play in a local golf tournament. As an inducement, the man offered him the weekend use of a condominium on the beach. "What do I need that for?" Spurrier asked. "I've got my own condo."

"But that's just Steve," says the man who tells the story. He is an admirer and, in truth, it's hard not to feel a kind of sneaky admiration for Spurrier. He got there his way. All alone. Football is a team sport in a corporate world, but they came to him. He turned down several NFL jobs before he signed with the Redskins. He is still the solitary artist. And among the stories that do not get told are the ones about his generosity to friends in trouble, about his charitable works or his successes as a husband and father. For a man who is so volatile and exposed in public, the private Spurrier is remarkably introverted. Reporters come away after one-on-one interviews impressed and liking the man. They also enjoy his company on the golf course, where he famously plays to win, indulges in head games with the competition and makes everyone play it where it lays and putt out on every hole.

But he is known most of all as a coach. Last January, he left the field in the Orange Bowl, hearing boos from the fans of a team he had humiliated. Florida had buried the season's Cinderella team, Maryland, 56–23. Had Spurrier run it up? Maybe. Because he knew then what nobody else in the world did. He was hanging it up at Florida.

•

The owner of the Washington Redskins is not a patient man. Dan Snyder is short and wears glasses but emotionally he could be a Spurrier clone, with the same appetite for winning. It is hard to imagine the two working long and amiably together, unless Spurrier takes the Redskins immediately to the playoffs and shortly thereafter to the Super Bowl. The pressure to win will be on him as he never felt it in Florida. Also, if Spurrier thought the press in Florida was exceedingly critical, welcome to Washington.

Already, Spurrier is comparing himself to the great Redskins coach Joe Gibbs, who won three Super Bowls. Gibbs is as laconic and buttoned-up as Spurrier is voluble and flamboyant. The only thing they have in common is an ability to coach football. To start winning rings, Spurrier has brought in players, like Wuerffel, who were with him at Florida but have, so far, failed in the pros. There is something defiant about it, as though he wants to make the point that those NFL coaches who snubbed his Gators were as wrong as the coaches who believed the Fun and Gun would never work in the SEC. When he does show them, he will be at center stage, in front of one of the largest audiences in the world.

Question is: Will he fall on his ass? Who knows? Millions are no doubt praying for it. But you'd be a fool to bet that way.

Sex
SEX
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Sex
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SEX

SIZE COUNTS

(continued from page 113)

monitor with a 16:9 aspect ratio and two HD-component video inputs for connecting HD decoders and DVD players. Proton's HWT-36A ($5000) is another great 34-inch wide-screen CRT. It has eight video source inputs, including two HD component connections. Both sets have flat screens, which provide better corner-to-corner picture than concave-shaped units.

REAR-PROJECTION TVS

The standard for large-screen viewing is the rear-projection TV. While conventional tubes max out at 40 inches, rear-projection units range from 42 to 73 inches. Images are projected from three separate picture tubes behind the screen, a configuration that may require periodic alignment. They are also prone to burn in. Some models compensate by shifting the picture a few millimeters every few seconds. It's undetectable and saves your screen.

One of our favorites is the 73-inch Mitsubishi WS-73711 rear-projection HDTV ($10,500). Besides offering a 16:9 ratio picture, the set is one of the first to incorporate FireWire connections. With compatible components, a FireWire-connected TV works as a command center for your home-theater system rather than a component. Those looking for something a little smaller should try the 50-inch Toshiba 50HX81 ($2500), which offers a 16:9 aspect ratio and picture-in-picture technology.

FRONT-PROJECTION TVS

If you want your living room to look more like a theater than a sports bar, check out a front-projection system. The units are roughly the size of a phone book and can be mounted on the ceiling or placed on a coffee table. Images are beamed from the projector to a bare wall or screen. Most will project an image up to 300 inches; however, set at 100 inches, the picture will dominate the better part of a wall.

Plan to spend anywhere from $3000 to $6000 for a good HD-capable home-theater projector. The cost depends on a couple of factors: brightness and resolution. Brightness is measured in ANSI lumens—the more lumens, the brighter the picture. Projectors in the 700- to 1000-lumen range require reduced lighting conditions for viewing; 1500 lumens or more ensures a crisp picture in most lighting environments. Avoid the lower-resolution SVGA (800 pixels wide by 600 pixels high) and look for XGA (1024 by 768) for HDTV.

As with rear-projection sets, front-projection TVs require upkeep; the inside lamp alone costs several hundred dollars. Estimated lamp life is 1000 hours. Noisy fans can be a problem, so listen carefully before you buy.

Sony Cineza VPL-HS1 ($3000) is HD-capable and can project in both 4:3 and 16:9 ratios. On the high end, ViewSonic's PJ1065-2 ($6000) kicks out 3500 lumens in XGA resolution.

Screens cost anywhere from $200 for the old pull-down type to $900 for an electric screen that descends with the push of a button. Gray screens are good for projectors with lower contrast ratios; white screens affect the viewing angle.

LCD TVS

Composed of liquid crystals that are sandwiched between glass, liquid crystal display TVs are capable of displaying a palette of 16.8 million colors for an amazing picture. They are flat and sleek and range from 30 to 40 inches on the higher end.

Sharp's 30-inch Wide-screen Aquos LC-30HV2U ($8000) comes with an external audio-video-computer system that handles all of the HDTV A/V input and output functions on a separate panel. The stand is detachable, allowing the panel to be hung on the wall. The ViewSonic VX3600 MegaMonitor ($6000) ("monitor" is preferred to "TV" among some manufacturers) uses liquid crystals on silicon technology and can display video, TV and PC signals.

PLASMA TVS

The best (and most expensive) option for large-screen viewing is the plasma TV. CRT and projection units create the picture line by line, firing an electron beam at regular intervals across the screen. Plasma TVs consist of electrodes between glass panels that cause tiny pockets of gas to react with red, green and blue phosphors in each pixel, producing visible light. This means all pixels on the screen are lit simultaneously, creating a sharper and brighter picture. It costs to fly first class. Expect to pay $4000 to $21,000 for a plasma TV.

The key feature to consider when purchasing a plasma TV is contrast ratio. Some have a 350:1 ratio, while others for the same price have a much nicer 3000:1 ratio. Panasonic's line of 42-inch models range from $5400 to $7900 and include a 3000:1 contrast ratio. If 42 inches isn't enough, there's the 50-inch ViewSonic VPW500 ($10,000). It's only four inches thick and supports both 720p and 1080i video formats. If you're really going for broke, try the 61-inch Fujitsu PDS6101 ($20,000). It's just 4.7 inches thick and weighs only 135 pounds.

Our inside tip for buyers: Some manufacturers give the same plasma TV two different model numbers—one for commercial customers and one for consumers. What's the difference? The consumer model costs more.

TV OR HDTV?

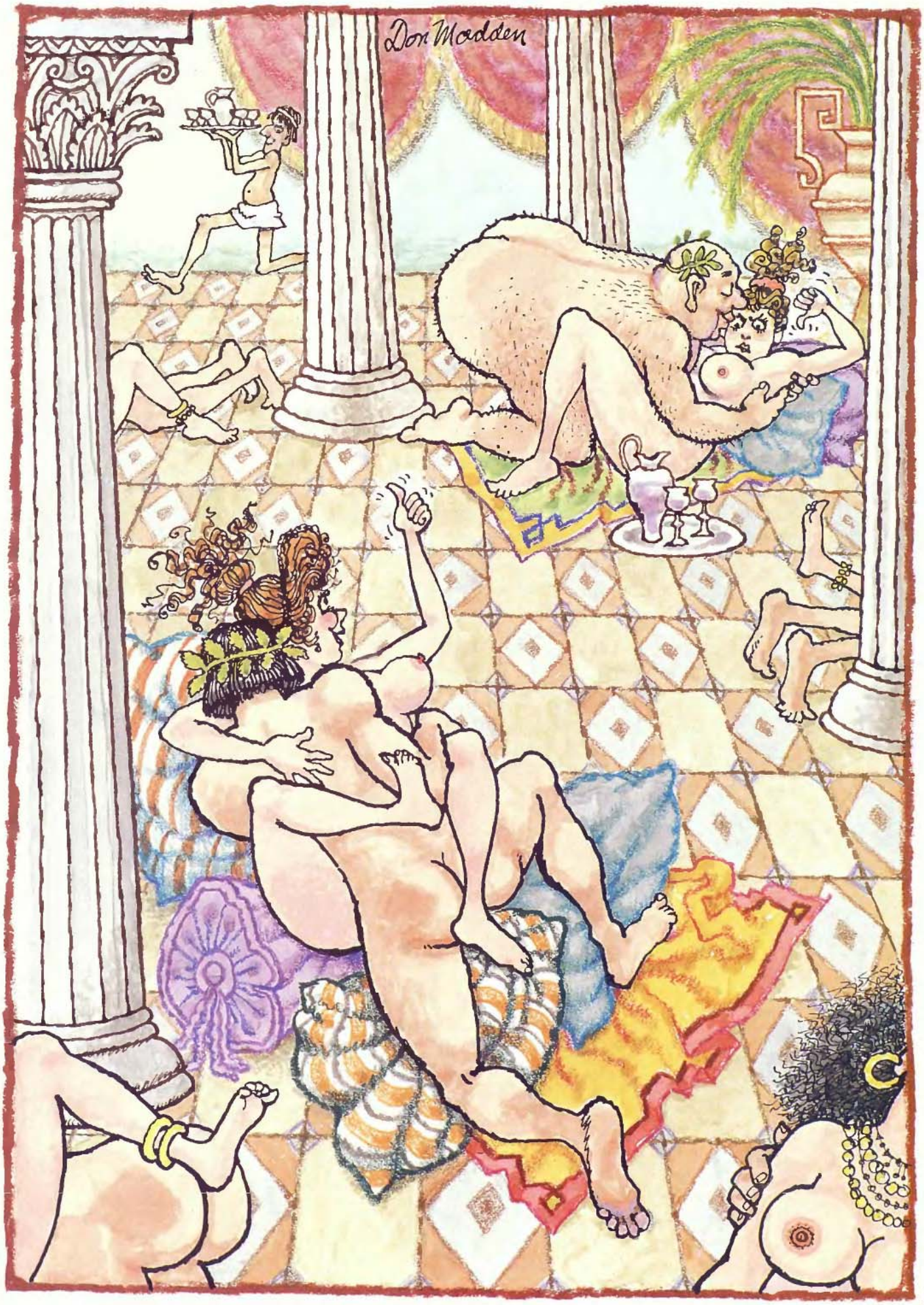
THAT IS THE QUESTION

The first thing to consider when buying a new set, small or large, is: high definition or analog? The FCC has mandated that by 2006, stations discontinue their analog broadcasts in favor of digital signals in high-definition television format. Digital signals can carry 19.3 megabits of information per second, resulting in a picture with twice the resolution of current sets and audio delivered in Dolby Surround sound. Some broadcasts are already transmitted in HDTV format, as were the 2002 Olympics and the NCAA basketball playoffs.

To take advantage of the technology, you'll need a TV that can handle the signal. HD-capable sets require an outside tuner to decode the signal. HD-integrated TVs have a built-in tuner but are more expensive. As cable, satellite and consumer electronics companies evolve, you're probably best off with an outside decoder box that can be changed.

The switch to digital doesn't mean your television will be useless in a few years (boxes that convert the digital signal into analog will likely be supplied at low cost). But the appearance of your screen will change. At one time, all TV screens were shaped like boxes. This is called a 4:3 aspect ratio—4 units wide by 3 units high. HDTV programs are broadcast in the same rectangular ratio as movies: 16:9. These HD broadcasts will continue to reach your TV via satellite dish, antenna or cable, although you'll need to replace the equipment with HD-compatible equivalents (contrary to popular belief, digital cable is not HDTV). To further complicate things, broadcasts come in several resolutions: 480p, 720p and 1080i, denoting the number of lines of horizontal resolution.

The imminent conversion from analog to digital TV has not been without controversy. Digital signals could give ultimate control to broadcasters over how and where their programming is viewed. Copy protection information can prevent certain programming from being recorded, and some initiatives hope to stop time-shifting (i.e., no more Tivo) and archiving of programs. That has consumer advocates and early HDTV users fuming. Expect the battle to get ugly as Hollywood and the FCC try to work out an agreement.


Don Madden

COOKING

(continued from page 108)

lemon (without skin), several peeled garlic cloves and a few sprigs of rosemary. Toss and let sit (covered) for an hour or so before you'll need them.

Hand her a glass of wine in the color of her choice, and let her watch.

The idea behind this dinner is that it's a meat-and-potatoes meal disguised as a bistro-style classic. The flank steak prepared this way is flavorful—the oil-and-soy marinade creates an appealing caramelized crust when grilled or broiled. The potato gratin is quick and virtually foolproof. It looks like magic at its best—simple and startling. The brussels sprouts are the biggest surprise. Roasted with a lot of salt, they become crunchy and flavorful—sort of like french fries.

Here's how it all works together.

Preheat the oven to 425° F.

Place a flank steak (a little over one pound is about right) in a shallow pan. Whisk together three tablespoons of olive oil, three tablespoons of soy sauce and salt and pepper. Pour over the flank steak. Turn the steak several times to completely coat. Let it sit.

Wash and then trim 15 or so brussels sprouts. Dry them. Place them in a bowl with a few tablespoons of olive oil and sprinkle with kosher salt and freshly ground pepper. Toss to coat. Place on a cookie sheet and heat in the oven for 20 to 25 minutes, shaking the pan to turn the sprouts every 10 minutes or so.

Peel and thinly slice two or three baking potatoes. Arrange in circular layers in an ovenproof saucepan along with salt and pepper, a few pats of butter and finely sliced garlic. Pour enough milk (or milk and half-and-half) to cover the potatoes halfway. Cook over medium-high heat until a light foam forms. This is what will brown when you put it in the oven. Grate some gruyère cheese over the top and cook for 10 minutes or so, then remove from heat.

In the meantime, break up and wash a head of romaine lettuce. Dry on towels. In a large bowl, combine three tablespoons of safflower oil, one tablespoon of red wine vinegar, one tablespoon of Dijon mustard, and salt and pepper. Whisk until blended and the dressing thickens.

At this point your brussels sprouts should be just about ready. Reduce the temperature to 350° F.

Heat the gratin of potatoes in the oven for 15 to 20 minutes, or until the top begins to brown. When the top browns, take both the sprouts and the gratin out of the oven.

Turn on the broiler. Place the flank steak on a broiler pan and broil for up to five minutes on each side. Learn to tell how well cooked a piece of meat is by feel. The firmer it is, the more well done. Err on the rare side—you can always return it to the oven. When it's to your taste, let it sit on a cutting board for at least five minutes. (Allowing roasted or grilled meat to rest lets its juices be reabsorbed.) Turn off the broiler and return the gratin and the sprouts to the oven. If you think of it, put a small baguette of French bread in there to warm.

Break up the lettuce leaves and toss with just enough dressing to lightly coat. Avoid using too much dressing. If you like, you can finish the salad by grating a little Parmesan cheese over it.

Carve the steak, slicing it at a diagonal across the grain. Present it on a serving dish. Serve the gratin in its oven dish. Place the sprouts in a bowl. Serve the salad on separate plates.

Pour a good Côtes du Rhône with the meal.

For dessert, keep it simple. In a small saucepan, reduce a package of frozen blueberries over medium heat. Add a quarter cup of sugar. Stir until the mixture has a medium, saucelike consistency. Add a splash of balsamic vinegar. Spoon a few tablespoons over a scoop or two of French vanilla ice cream.

Basic equipment (these are things you will need to do serious cooking):

- Measuring spoons
- Measuring cups
- Broiler pan
- Cookie sheet
- Whisks in several sizes
- Several large stainless steel bowls
- One chef's knife
- One peeler
- One paring knife
- Stainless steel colander (with a handle)
- Tongs in several sizes
- Spatulas in several sizes
- A ladle that holds a cup of liquid
- Pyrex pans in assorted sizes
- Stainless steel saucepans in two or three sizes
- Two nonstick frying pans—one large, one small
- A well-seasoned cast-iron frying pan
- Perfex pepper grinder
- Cheese grater

Basic provisions (things you should always have in your kitchen):

- Several heads of garlic
- Several kinds of pasta
- Extra-virgin olive oil
- Balsamic vinegar
- Red wine vinegar
- Kosher or sea salt
- A wedge of aged Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese
- Several varieties of onions
- Shallots
- Fresh rosemary
- Fresh basil

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4. All prizes will be awarded. Odds of winning depend on number of eligible entries received. Winners will be required to complete, sign and return an affidavit of eligibility and liability and publicity release within 10 days of prize notification. Winner's travel companion must be at least 21 years of age and will be required to complete, sign and return a liability and publicity release prior to receiving travel documents. In the event of noncompliance within this time period, prize will be forfeited and an alternate winner selected. Any prize notification or prize returned to the sponsor or its agencies as undeliverable will result in disqualification and the awarding of that prize to an alternate winner.

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8. By accepting a prize, winners and their travel companions agree to release and hold the Group harmless from any and all losses, damages, rights, claims and actions of any kind resulting from acceptance, possession or use of any prize, including without limitation, personal injuries, death and property damage. By participating in the sweepstakes, participant agrees to be bound by all the Official Rules of the sweepstakes.

9. For a list of winners, send your name and complete address on a 3" x 5" card and mail in an envelope to: 2002 Michelob Light Playboy Triple Platinum Sweepstakes Winners list, P.O. Box 3449, Young America, MN 55558-3449. Requests must be received by February 2, 2003. Winners' names will also be posted on Michelob.com after December 30, 2002.

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Sex & Sanctity

(continued from page 78)

with a married woman.

When the Irish came to America, their priests imposed a similar model of control on a vast network of parishes and schools. Many veterans of the American Catholic education system had it drilled into their heads that sex was dirty and that sexual sins such as masturbation would send the sinner to hell.

The church hierarchy continued to endorse some of the most irrational and destructive parts of its legacy. At the turn of the 20th century, American seminary teachers encouraged the church hierarchy to be open to new philosophical approaches and to the scientific method. The church responded with a repressive set of oaths that required priests and bishops to swear against Modernism. I had to take that oath as a condition for my ordination at a private ceremony with my classmates. I regret that I did so.

•

When movies became popular, the church leadership set about censoring them to impose their views about sex on the American moviegoing public. In the late Twenties, George Cardinal Mundelein of Chicago and a group of Catholic priests and laymen from his archdiocese drafted the Cardinal's Code. In March 1930, that document became the Motion Picture Production Code. When many Hollywood directors ignored its demands, the Catholic leadership issued a proclamation: "Catholics are called by God, the Pope, the bishops and the priests to a united and vigorous campaign for the purification of the cinema, which has become a deadly menace to morals." Soon it created the Legion of Decency, which drafted lists of "condemned" movies that Catholics could see only at the cost of eternal damnation.

Catholic leaders then persuaded Hollywood moguls to enforce the production code. Joe Breen, who was a public relations man and close friend of Cardinal Mundelein, tried to prohibit sex entirely and was frequently able to get his way, banning, for example, "any showing of the udders of a cow," and insisting that Nick and Nora Charles, though married, sleep in separate beds in the *Thin Man* films.

The film model of the "perfect priest" was best captured on film by Bing Crosby, playing Father Chuck O'Malley, the holy charmer in *Going My Way* (1944) and in *The Bells of Saint Mary's* (1945). O'Malley was the man of God who could solve any problem, the patient and trusted confidant to all, from the wealthy developer to the embittered spinster. He rescued failing schools and restored broken families and relationships. He was

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full of warmth and understanding. He was also asexual, as far as one could tell.

The perfect priest myth was still alive when some of the sexual abuses were reported earlier this year.

•

Even before the current crisis, many issues were under discussion within the church. There may well be a showdown between the hierarchy and the rest of us, clergy and laity, who feel that church leaders have lost their moral authority.

Perhaps the most intractable problem for church officials will be coping with the contradictions in their pronouncements regarding gay priests. According to the church, there is nothing wrong or sinful about an orientation toward same-sex love. The act of gay love itself, however, is wrong. As with contraception, masturbation and premarital sex, same-gender love is a mortal sin, and the penalty is eternal hell. In other words, it is fine to be gay, it is even possible that God intended homosexuality to exist (a point the church has only recently started to consider), so long as you don't act gay sexually. Being a good gay Catholic means only one thing to Rome: celibacy.

Celibacy itself has become a source of contention. Until the Middle Ages, some priests were married men with families. But in 1079 the hierarchy mandated celibacy, primarily to keep property inside the church and not in the hands of nonclerical offspring. Much of Catholicism's understanding of the priesthood dates from that same period. Now that rule could in fact be reversed with the flick of a papal pen—and this might be a good thing. The priests I know who are in relationships—heterosexual and homosexual—seem to be much happier and content with their lives and often more effective in their pastoral work. But now they are running scared, particularly the gay priests.

There's also considerable anger among clergy and laity over the church leadership's almost vengeful attitude toward women. After Vatican II and until John Paul II became pope, it appeared that women might be given important positions that evoked their roles in the earliest days of the church. Even conservatives such as John Cardinal O'Connor of New York said the question of women's ordination was a matter of traditional discipline and not one of faith. In other words, modern Catholics saw the all-male priesthood as a practice on the verge of desuetude.

John Paul II disagreed. He insisted on the church doctrine that only men can be ordained. He emphasized his point by forbidding any priest or bishop from publicly discussing the matter.

Contraception is not as heated an issue, if only because most Catholics ignore the church's condemnation of it. But they could not ignore Edward Cardinal Egan's performance when he went to Albany in March 2001 to lobby the New York state political leadership. In New York City, where many children lack adequate nutrition, Egan lobbied against pending legislation that would require Catholic hospitals and schools to provide insurance coverage for contraception for their female employees. If that seemed scandalous, consider Africa, where the church maintains an extensive health care system, and its workers have done extraordinary work for HIV patients and their families. Yet the church hierarchy actively opposes the use of condoms and will not allow its hospitals and clinics to distribute them.

If history is any indication, the prognosis is not favorable for those who are hoping for meaningful reform during the reign of the current pope. When the church faces a threat to its authority, it invariably responds with more repression and conservatism. One detects that strategy these days in the statements of many senior cardinals in the Pope's Curia. They feel the American church has overreacted to the problem of sexual abuse by some priests and should instead spend its energy on restoring orthodoxy among priests and the faithful—beginning with a purge of gay priests.

If the next pope does not offer the promise of serious reform, it's possible that parts of the church in the U.S. will break formally from Rome's authority. For years, more than 60 percent of American Catholics have differed radically from the leadership on the question of contraception. Those Catholics have simply gone their own way and now, with anger among the laity rising, they may turn out to be pioneers.

Historically, the church often has resolved internal pressures through a split or schism, in which one part of the church breaks away from another. When Henry VIII couldn't get a divorce, he created the Church of England. Centuries earlier, in 1054, when Eastern churches couldn't agree with Rome on certain doctrinal questions, they established the orthodox tradition. Recent splits have included the Old Catholics who reject the church's teaching on papal infallibility as promulgated in 1870 and several ultraconservative groups who argue that Rome lost its claim to legitimacy when it

"Something that says 'I'm sorry I lost my erection.'"

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abandoned the Latin mass.

A split over current issues could happen in several ways. A parish or cluster of parishes could break away, refusing to take orders from the local bishop. Catholic parishes are typically incorporated separately; the local bishop and his delegate generally control the board of directors. In other words, the parishes are the property of the bishop, who is the head of the diocese, and the law is on his side. But the idea of a bishop forcibly seizing control of his property from dissenting Catholics might easily lead to more communities of dissenting Catholics.

A different scenario would take place if a bishop were to act against Rome's wishes by, say, ordaining women or dissenting from Rome's dicta on gays or birth control. Such an action would present a more serious problem for Rome than a dispute over the control of a parish. Bishops are teachers, successors to the first apostles. For a bishop to teach against Rome is a serious matter, one that implicates God. The church believes that bishops receive their authority to teach from God's spirit.

It is also possible that American Catholics will follow the example of their European counterparts and leave the churches empty. Or, given the palpable need for spirituality among the laity, American Catholics may shop around for a church that listens more to Jesus and does not stake its authority on the mechanics of sexuality.

For me, the contradictions proved too much, and I decided to leave the active ministry. It wasn't an easy decision to make. I believe in the supremacy of one's conscience—that forum where God alone speaks to the individual as a counselor and guide. I could not serve two masters—the official church and my conscience.

There was nothing sudden or dramatic about my decision. Instead of a last straw there seemed to be an accumulation of straws. I realized that during my years in the religious life the hierachy had become more reactionary in a swaggering sort of way. Far right organizations such as Opus Dei received papal support and Pope Pius IX (1792–1878), notorious for his anti-Semitism, was proposed for sainthood. I saw the church's cruelty to gays and to divorced Catholics, and I delved deeper into the appalling damage caused by some of the church's rules about sex—especially forbidding the teaching of safe sex. In Africa, that stance seems to be criminally negligent and is a major factor in the enormous death toll from AIDS. When that sank in, I realized I could no longer wear my collar.

I no longer perform clerical duties, but it is official church teaching that I will be a priest until I die. So be it.

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THE PERSONALS

(continued from page 76)

asked you what they should do, the look you delivered unto me stole my heart. What did you mean by "elsewhere"? I'll bring the guys and meet you there. We must see you again. Walvin is OK. He's back. Have you seen Feudal Rescue or Feudal Firedragon? *Pruxi-pruxi!*

GIRL SEES BOY

I'm guilty! But I need to see you again. Me: Eloisa de Foint gold silk suit, Carmen Mencara red silk scarf—defense attorney. You: cranberry sweater vest and Gap khakis in the back row of the jury. The Davenpork murder trial. When I said, "Just how many people have such a gun?" you rolled your eyes big-time and stole my heart. Of course, I was winging it. Davenpork is guilty as hell; he would have killed them all twice if he'd had the chance. I thought this was just a job—until I saw you. I work for the state, but I must see you again. Next Tuesday in Municipal Court; wear the cranberry sweater again.

BOY SEES BOY

Heartbreaker one-nine! We met in traffic last Monday outside the courthouse. I was the guy in the Civic who turned left in front of your big red rig. How'd you stop that thing? You were wearing some kind of black leather cap and eating a Subway meatball. I love that red mustache! Your eyes were as big as eyes get, and when they met mine, you stole my little heart. Hey, we don't have to be gay to get coffee. Everybody drinks coffee. If I looked upset, it wasn't you. I've got jury duty in a stupid murder trial until next week, but I really want to ride in that rig. Get back to me, good buddy. And thanks for stopping.

BOY SEES GIRL

Nature girl, I don't know if driving naked is your thing or if you're a health nut. But I must say, I give it a big thumbs-up. I haven't seen anything look so good wearing nothing but a seat belt for many a moon. You and your little Lexus drove right by my red semi, just after I'd skidded to avoid some idiot in a Honda downtown Monday afternoon. You looked up, and I've been looking for my heart ever since. Listen, I spend my life driving, and all of a bare-naked sudden, I am very interested in going for a drive. I'm up for it. Are those leather seats?

GIRL SEES GIRL

Is there a love letter in your bag? You: short blonde delivering mail on Bloomfield Avenue, Monday, late in the day. You look good in those blue post office shorts! And, I like your funky truck. Me: in the Lexus. I pulled up and asked if I'd need extra postage on the J. Crew return package. It took you a minute to see I was nude, but when our eyes met, you postmarked my heart. I could see you wanted to make a special delivery. Can we meet when your rounds are done?

GIRL SEES BOY

You are a genuine jumping jack. I saw you bouncing up and over your front fence last Monday, just off the corner of Bloomfield. You were wearing a strange orange shirt and drinking a blue can of Drizz Ale, which I love! I was in my post office duds, dropping the Price Chopper fliers into your mailbox. Every time your head popped up, our eyes met and you stole my heart. What have you got in there, a trampoline? You're a wild man and I'd jump at the chance to see you again. Send me a letter, you kangaroo!

"You seem to have a detached retinue."

LARRY ELLISON

(continued from page 64)

company stock, even if you do it voluntarily. Yeah, Ken Lay lost a lot more money than everybody else, but Ken Lay had a lot of money to lose. A lot of people lost a little bit of money, but that was the money they were depending on for their retirement. That should not be allowed. We have an employee stock purchase plan, but retirement money should be separate and it should be in much less risky vehicles than company stock.

PLAYBOY: In 2000, you were, for a while, the richest man in the world.

ELLISON: Yeah, for a few weeks.

PLAYBOY: What did that mean to you?

ELLISON: It's kind of irrelevant. I have joked that I wished I'd passed Bill Gates on the way up rather than having him pass me on his way down. But what really means a lot to me is Oracle passing Microsoft. If we can accomplish that, it will be huge. It's not about who wins the batting title; it's about who wins the World Series. I want Oracle to become the largest and most valuable software company. It's hard to go from number two to number one. It's like heavyweight championship boxing. People get better and better as you move up the ranks.

PLAYBOY: Steve Jobs once said you were the poster child for the outrageous CEO. Is that something you take pride in?

ELLISON: It might be safer and easier saying what's safe and expected. I'd rather speak my mind and do what I want to do. I know some people are offended by the fact that I'm spending a lot of money trying to win the America's Cup. I could have given all that money to charity. Well, I do give hundreds of millions of dollars—lots and lots—away. Once I was thinking of buying a second car and I was in a moral dilemma. Should anyone have a second car when there are people who are hungry? If I didn't buy the second car, I could have taken the $5000 or $10,000, whatever it was, and given it to people to save their lives. If you have a second car, it's OK for me to have a boat. All of us who live in this country consume much more than we need, but it's OK. We've earned it.

PLAYBOY: What does it say about someone, whether it's you, Ted Turner or Richard Branson, when he becomes obsessed with winning the America's Cup or being first to sail a balloon around the world?

ELLISON: We just enjoy the competition. We're endlessly curious about each other and ourselves. We're curious about our limits. Can I win the Pulitzer prize? Can I finish that novel? I'm satisfying my curiosity to find out if we can engineer a boat and sail that boat well enough, better than anyone else in the world. I think I can, but I don't know.

PLAYBOY: How important is the risk?

ELLISON: I have done things that are high risk. I sailed *Sayonara* in the Sydney–Hobart race in 1998 in a hurricane. Many boats were sunk and many sailors died. No one enjoyed being in that race. Everyone wished there were a magic button we could push to get out of that hurricane.

PLAYBOY: Did the experience make you more cautious?

ELLISON: Absolutely. I was asked if I was going to race in that event again. I said, "I'm not going to do this race again if I live to be 1000." Then I thought about it and said, "No, if I live to be 1000, I'll do the race again." I've surfed in storms in Hawaii. I've broken my neck surfing in storms, which was really stupid. I was out with a couple of Hawaiian kids surfing on a huge wave, which was just dumb. While bike racing I broke my arm in 28 places.

PLAYBOY: Is there a corollary between the ability to succeed in business and being drawn toward risk?

ELLISON: No. I would say it's curiosity. George Mallory was wrong. When he was asked why he climbed the mountain, he said, "Because it's there." It was because he wondered if he could be the first.

PLAYBOY: What upsets you?

ELLISON: I was upset when a young lady accused me of doing things I didn't do. People assumed she was telling the truth.

PLAYBOY: You are referring to the case of the former Oracle employee who alleged you tried to force her to have sex.

ELLISON: Yes, who later went to jail for a year for perjury and for falsifying evidence.

PLAYBOY: What happened?

ELLISON: We were dating and she said in a claim that I forced her to have sex with me. Then she immediately changed her statement to say that she actually refused to have sex with me and that's why I caused her to be fired. I was absolutely horrified by the first statement. I never forced her to have sex, and I never caused her to be fired. It was a scam. She was caught sending a false e-mail note. It was premeditated.

PLAYBOY: Is this an example of the downside of your fame and wealth?

ELLISON: Yeah. No one thinks of me as a victim. But I was. I'll never forget riding up the elevator at Oracle alone with a woman—the way she looked at me. That was the worst thing that's happened other than nearly dying in that stupid hurricane. No, the accusation was worse.

PLAYBOY: As a result, are you cautious about who you'll spend time with?

ELLISON: No. Again, it's "Surely the terrorists will have won." Maybe I should be more cautious than I am, but I'm pretty good at detecting people's motives. How can you believe me after I went out with that woman? I knew I was getting myself into trouble with her. I knew she was different. She was evil.

PLAYBOY: Was it that you didn't trust your instincts?

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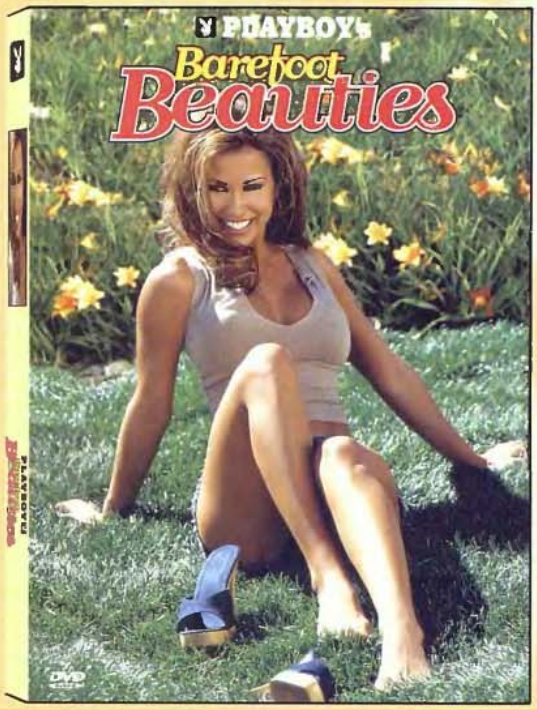

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AT NEWSSTANDS NOW

ELLISON: I'd never met anyone like that before. I've run into people who are selfish, self-serving, calculating—all of those things—but rarely do you run into a person who is genuinely evil. I found her intriguing. I knew something was off, but, boy, I didn't detect it. I can detect when there's a quid pro quo expected. But this was something I had no experience with.

PLAYBOY: Have you run into evil people in business?

ELLISON: Absolutely not. Tough business people but not evil.

PLAYBOY: Is winning in business like winning in a game?

ELLISON: Two analogies are always used to describe business. One is military—that it's a war—and the other is sports. Neither works. It's much more important than a game. It's much less important than a war. Of the three things I'm working on now, cancer research is vital; business is important but not vital, and the America's Cup is just fun.

PLAYBOY: You were once asked how much of your wealth you would pay for your biotech company to successfully beat cancer.

ELLISON: All of it. It's a simple calculation. Which would you rather have as an outcome of your life: Be the richest person on earth or be the guy who cured cancer?

PLAYBOY: You've also said that part of the motivation has been to prove your adoptive father, who criticized and doubted you, wrong. Is that accurate?

ELLISON: When you don't have a close relationship with your parents, it forever colors your personality. In theory, parents grant their children unconditional love. Other love has to be earned. If you don't get unconditional love early on, you have a great void in your life. Depending on how you adapt, you can get very good at trying to earn the love of others. Bill Clinton is like me in that regard. He had a difficult relationship with his father. Another is Winston Churchill, who had virtually no relationship with his parents. Without love from your parents, the love of others becomes a large part of your life. You either learn how to get it or you try to get it through your achievements.

PLAYBOY: Does it work? Do the achievements fill the void?

ELLISON: Yes and no. My sister is a psychologist. Once she asked me an interesting question. "What's more important to you: to be loved or to be respected?" I was in my midteens. I said it was easy to answer. To be respected. She said I was wrong. I got really annoyed with her. But then I paused for a second. I thought, Ahh. I just *think* it's more important to be respected. I'm concealing the fact that it's really more important to be loved. Of course she's right. We've got to find that someplace in our lives. It's why my extended family is very important. And my relationship with my children is especially important to me.

PLAYBOY: Are there successful people who had happy childhoods?

ELLISON: There's a great line in Tim Rice's *Chess* about Evita: She had all of the disadvantages she needed to succeed. If it doesn't kill you, it makes you stronger. Unfortunately, it kills an awful lot of people.

PLAYBOY: How important was it to learn about your birth parents?

ELLISON: For a long time I would rather not have known. Then I got curious enough and strong enough. I was willing to take the emotional risk of finding out about my biological origins. The interesting thing about discovering my biological family was the realization that I didn't belong to them. I belonged to the family that raised me. It eliminated all ambiguity.

PLAYBOY: Was it in some ways disappointing to complete the search?

ELLISON: No. And it was not nearly as emotional as I expected.

PLAYBOY: Did the parents who raised you live to see your success?

ELLISON: My father saw some of it and he was pretty surprised.

PLAYBOY: When you look back on it, do you feel it was just a matter of lucky choices that led you to found Oracle?

ELLISON: I'm sure there's a huge portion of luck. Without being in California, without being in the United States—this would not have happened in Russia.

PLAYBOY: Did you go to California specifically to work in technology?

ELLISON: No, because it was the Sixties.

PLAYBOY: Did you wear flowers in your hair?

ELLISON: I didn't wear flowers in my hair and I never wore beads.

PLAYBOY: Beads or not, were you affected by the Sixties counterculture?

ELLISON: I loved the music, but I thought the make-love-not-war thing was an

unusual theory; that the best way to stop the Vietnam War was to have sex. I thought the clothes were kind of odd. I had sideburns, but I'm not very good at being a conformist. In the Silicon Valley, where everyone wore jeans and T-shirts, I wore suits. People thought I was crazy, but I think suits look better. If the majority is listening to Creedence, I probably won't. If you're really different, like Galileo, and you say, "No, I don't think the Earth is the center of the universe," you get yourself into a lot of trouble. We hate people who are different. We hate innovation. We hate new ideas. It worked badly for me in school and it worked badly in my peer groups. The teachers said that things were true that I didn't think were true, and I would argue with them. Everyone was wearing their hair long and I was wearing mine short. Not conforming caused terrible problems for me at school, but it was magic in business.

PLAYBOY: How so?

ELLISON: The only way you can succeed in business big-time is to find places where conventional wisdom is wrong—to find errors in the fashion. You cannot innovate by copying. You can't innovate by wearing your hair the same as everybody else.

PLAYBOY: What's an example in your business life?

ELLISON: We were the first company to decide to base all of our software on the Internet, not this Microsoft client server or anything like that. Everyone said we were crazy. There even was a revolution inside the company; half of the senior executives wanted me to lose my job because I was putting the company at risk at a time when the customers were demanding client server systems. Someone always has to be first. The first is always saying, "I'm right, and everyone else in the world is wrong," and we call that arrogance of the highest order. But unless you're willing to diverge from conventional wisdom, you won't do anything new. Thinking outside the box is tough because the box has very strong walls, floor and ceiling. But it's the only way to win big.

PLAYBOY: At a start-up, new thinking is much less risky. But at a company the size of Oracle, there are lots of jobs, never mind investors' cash, at stake.

ELLISON: Yeah, the stakes are much higher, but once every five years you have to find some error in conventional wisdom and do it differently. We were founded on that type of risk. We were the first company that thought a relational database could be commercialized. I read the IBM white paper about this and saw no reason why the idea wouldn't work. I thought, We can beat IBM to the market with their own idea.

PLAYBOY: How did you explain to a lay audience how a relational database was different from the databases that had preceded it?

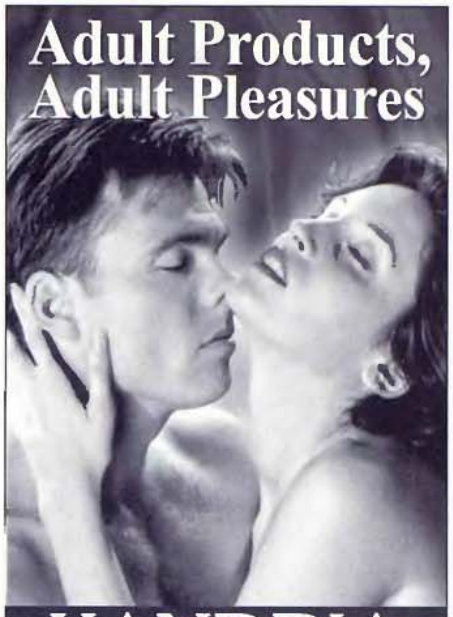
ELLISON: With a relational database, you can ask any kind of question of the data you have compiled. Which department has the highest average salary? Which department had the highest average salary six months ago? Any question you can think of. Before that, you often couldn't ask those questions. You'd have to write a complex computer program to do it, but often you couldn't answer the question even if you took the time to write the program. The existing databases could never run a bank, insurance company or an intelligence agency; they were too slow. We figured out ways to make it work and run faster than the then-popular commercial databases. The relational database is now the standard. Now no one would dream of building a database that wasn't a relational database.

PLAYBOY: What's your next move that people will say is crazy?

ELLISON: We're in the middle of it. We have what we call an applications suite. In the past, you would rely on different companies for different applications: Siebel for sales force automation, Epiphany for marketing, SAP for accounting, I2 for supply chain. The idea was that you should buy all these different applications and stitch them together. The stitching together is what interested us. We think it's a nonsensical idea. It's as nonsensical as trying to build a car out of a transmission from a Cadillac, an engine block from a Porsche, pistons from a BMW. It makes no sense. We think all these parts—your marketing system, your sales system, your support system, your accounting system, your supply chain system, your HR system—should be engineered to fit together. It's a radical idea. We call it the E-Business Suite, and we're the first to talk about it. Everybody—IBM, SAP, Siebel—says we're crazy. They say customers don't want to depend on one company. They can give a million reasons why we're crazy. They told us we were crazy for moving everything to the Internet, too. They told us we were crazy when we built the first commercial relational database. There are two possibilities when people say you're crazy: You're first with a really wonderful idea that's going to make your company is possibility one. Possibility two? You're crazy [*laughs*]. Unless you hear you're crazy every once in a while, you're doing something wrong.

PLAYBOY: At what point do you know an innovation is going to work?

ELLISON: When everyone else comes onboard. Microsoft goes through four stages of stealing someone else's idea. First they say that what you're doing is the stupidest thing they ever heard of. Stage two: "Well, there are some interesting pieces in it, but the idea as a whole isn't very good." Stage three is: "We have



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exactly the same thing, but ours is better." Stage four: "It was our idea in the first place." We saw it with relational databases and Internet computing, and we're watching it again now in E-Business Suite.

PLAYBOY: Have you been wrong?

ELLISON: Not at a time when we bet the entire company on a new idea. However, I'll never forget one of the worst mistakes I ever made. We had an Oracle server that ran on top of MS-DOS. We decided not to release it because OS2 was coming out. As it turned out, OS2 came out and was kind of irrelevant. We lost a lot of the server business to Novell at the time. We had followed the conventional wisdom. Everyone waited for OS2 since Microsoft and IBM told us to wait for it. We got creamed by following conventional wisdom.

PLAYBOY: Another mistake was in 1991 when the company crashed. According to reports, you were out sailing instead of minding the store.

ELLISON: I just wasn't very good at minding the store. I wasn't a very good CEO. This naive, inexperienced management team led by yours truly did a terrible job. I didn't even own a boat 10 years ago. As a result I got much more involved in the business. I learned.

PLAYBOY: How do you explain all your success?

ELLISON: It's based on our products, but that's not enough. Still, most of the people who buy our database are people who already have our database. What can the salesmen say to somebody to get them to buy a product that they use every day if they don't like it? We live and die on our products. Maybe 99 percent of Fortune 500 companies use our database. IBM. Microsoft. Virtually everybody.

PLAYBOY: Bill Gates?

ELLISON: We do MSN's billing system.

PLAYBOY: You said once you would stay at Oracle four more years. That was five years ago.

ELLISON: There are days when I feel like I'll leave now, thank you. But no. It's very hard for me to walk away from Oracle without knowing how the story is going to end. We're in the middle of the greatest consolidation of the technology industry ever. People are arranging themselves at the table; it's not obvious who is going to sit at the head. I want to know what's going to happen. I feel as if we're only halfway through a novel.

PLAYBOY: Is there an ending to the novel?

ELLISON: Absolutely. Life is short and there are lots of interesting things to do. Unlike Gates, I have lots of other interests. I own a cancer research company [Quark] in Israel. I have a pretty good time. The best thing about being a minor celebrity is that I get to meet all sorts of interesting people.

PLAYBOY: Have you thought of running for office?

ELLISON: If I thought I could improve education in California, it would be immoral for me not to. But God knows I don't want to be in Sacramento, and I am pretty sure I wouldn't be elected, so it works out well.

PLAYBOY: Instead, you're getting married—again.

ELLISON: I'm engaged, and I have two children, a 19-year-old son and a 16-year-old daughter. More? That's up to my fiancée. So will you please set the record straight: I am engaged to Melanie Craft. The *New York Post* said that she doesn't exist. They wouldn't have had to do a lot of research to find out she exists. She's been seen by a lot of people. She is a writer and they said that I wrote the book that she published. They said that it was designed to keep women away—like I have this huge problem.

PLAYBOY: As a veteran of three marriages, do you feel you can do it better this time?

ELLISON: There's no question I can do it better. Can I do it worse? I don't think so. Impossible.

PLAYBOY: What have you learned?

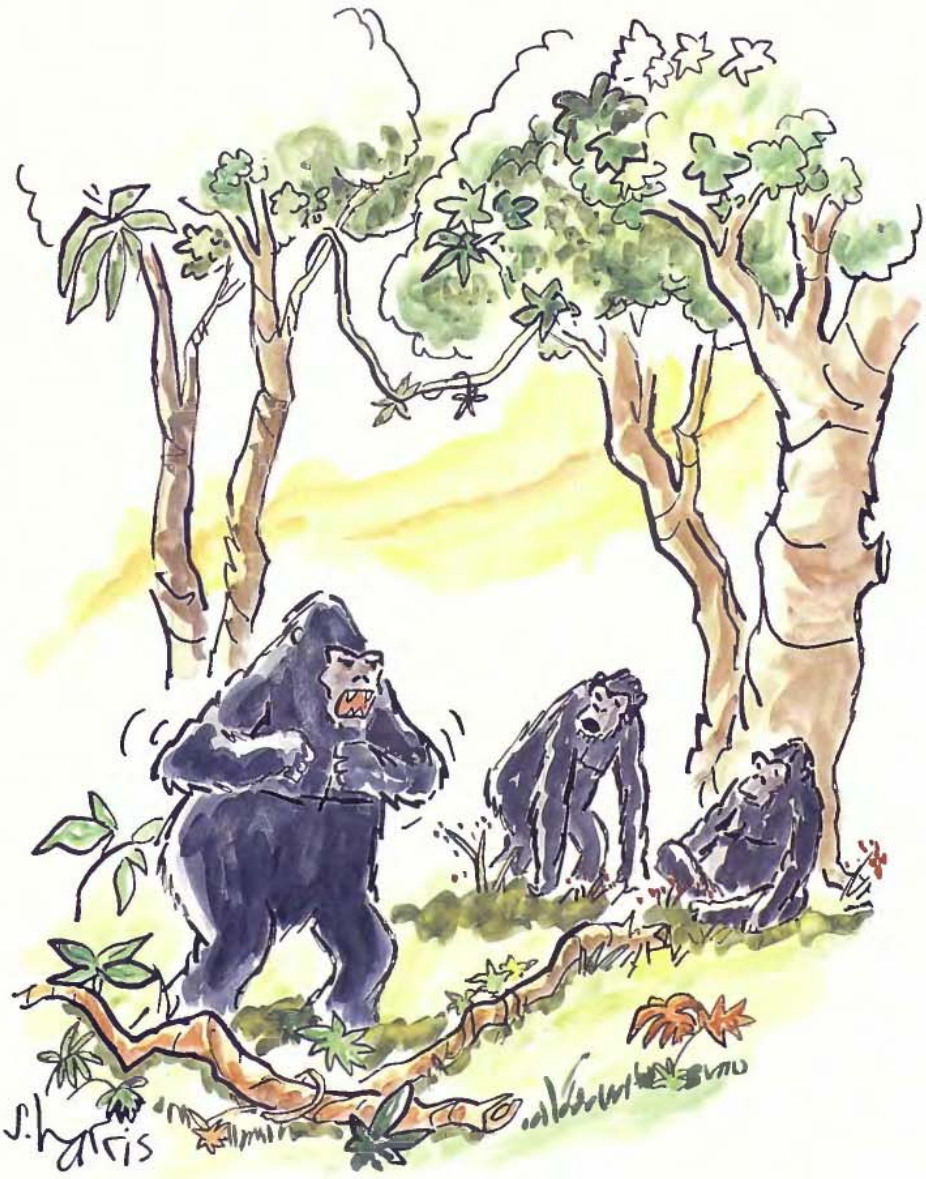
ELLISON: Some people may think their partner is really an extension of themselves. I had an irrational standard of behavior for myself. If she didn't conform to the same standard, I would become annoyed. I've got to keep in mind that she is she and I am me. I shouldn't seek to control her anymore than I would want her to control me.

PLAYBOY: How about as a parent—are you better than your parents?

ELLISON: My kids will tell you I torment them with attention.

PLAYBOY: According to your story, they won't be great business leaders.

ELLISON: But they will be happy people. And that's much, much nicer.



"For an alpha male, he sure has a tiny pecker."

PLAYMATE NEWS

Q. AND A. WITH PMOY

It wasn't easy tracking down in-demand Playmate of the Year Dalene Kurtis, but we finally scored five minutes on the phone. **Q:** Now that you're the PMOY, are you ready to run around the globe like a sleep-deprived maniac? **A:** I'm a workaholic, so this is a gift. Shooting the photos and videos and going to the appearances has been hectic, but I'm happy to be working. I've been auditioning to host TV shows. I'm on Playboy time for a year—they keep me busy. **Q:** Was there cattiness when other Playmates found out you won? **A:** No. Jennifer Walcott called and sent flowers—she's the sweetest girl. All of the Playmates have been nice—at least to my face! **Q:** Did you go through an awkward phase growing up? **A:** I attended a Christian school until the fourth grade. Then I was thrown into public school, where everyone thought I was a goody-goody. I had a hard time fitting in. **Q:** What do your former schoolmates think of the new PMOY? **A:** I keep in touch with only one girl. I hadn't seen her in 10 years, but I invited her to my PMOY party. She still follows a Christian lifestyle, but she is supportive and happy for me. I'm glad she doesn't judge me.

25 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

Beaumont, Texas native Debra Jo Fondren is legendary for one thing: her hair. "She was one of the most popular Playmates of the Seventies," Hef says. "She reminded me of Veronica Lake, because she was petite and had this incredible hair." Debra Jo's tendrils were thick, blonde and wavy and fell past her waist, a striking asset that set her apart from the other Centerfolds of her era. "She is her own location," photographer Richard Fegley said. A location that's definitely worth a revisit.

Debra Jo Fondren.

Q: Do you ever get tired of strange people gawking at you? **A:** The only time the attention bothers me is when I feel like they're undressing me with their eyes.

FEMALE BONDING

What do Playmates talk about when they hang out? Sex? Men? Makeup? The latest episode of *The Bachelor*? Of course—they're girls. Clockwise from top left: Miriam Gonzalez and Stephanie Heinrich kick it at the Mansion; Pyrat rum spokesmodel Cara Michelle and Patron tequila spokesmodel Victoria Silvstedt in New York; Tina Jordan and Lauren Hill; Carrie Stevens, Suzanne Stokes and Layla Roberts; Playmates on the NBC show *Dog Eat Dog*; Nerioh Davis and Jodi Ann Peterson in Thailand; Traci Bingham, Tina Jordan and Taro Reid hit the town.

PLAYMATE NEWS

My Favorite Playmate By Mike Walker

My favorite is Candy Loving. She was from Texas. One of the things I like about the Playmates from past years is that they really looked like the girl next door. Although I think the girl next door has since changed—she's much more sophisticated when it comes to makeup, hair and style. Candy looked like the girl next door when I was the boy next door. Candy, I love you, wherever you are today. You were my idol.

OLA MORE

Where has Miss June 1980 Ola Ray been since she was freaked out by Michael Jackson and a graveyard full of zombies in the 1983 video *Thriller*? In a recent *People* magazine update, Ola called the video "a high point of my life" and spoke candidly about her drug problems. "I got involved in the drug scene," she says, which led to a 1992 bust for cocaine possession and a nine-month stint in a California treatment facility. Today, Ola is clean, single and the mother of a six-year-old, Iam. *Thriller* is ranked by MTV as the greatest video ever made, and Ola was involved in a legal battle to collect the money she says she is owed from her appearance in the video. She is also embarking on a new career: pop stardom. "After this I won't need Michael's change," she says. "I'm hoping I'll have my own."

LOOSE LIPS

When I was in elementary school, I stuffed my bra. It was terrible. —Julie Cialini

I go crazy at the Mansion. Once my mom and I were looking at the magazine's party photos. My mom goes, "Look at that girl crawling up the rocks—she's naked!" I was like, "That's me!" —Anka Romensky

I'm a party animal. I have to say it. —Stephanie Heinrich

I was never in school. I ditched and partied all the time. I got my GED when I was 15. —Heather Carolin

I like my boobs because they're still up there. —Maria Checa

PLAYMATE BIRTHDAYS

September 3: Miss November 1991 **Tanja Christensen**
September 8: Miss February 1991 **Cristy Thom**
September 21: Miss October 1995 **Alicia Rickter**
September 29: Miss February 1987 **Julie Peterson**
September 30: Miss August 1963 **Phyllis Sherwood**

GUMBALL RALLY

Our Playboy X-Treme Team jocks Danelle Folta, Shanna Moakler, Daphnee Duplaix and Jessica Lee got behind the wheel of a BMW Mini Cooper and drove from New York City to Las Angeles for the annual *Cannonball Run*–style Gumball 3000 Rally. Matthew McConaughey and the stars of MTV's *Jackass* were also in the race, which ended with an all-night fete at the Mansion.

PLAYMATE GOSSIP

Jenny McCarthy and director hubby **John Asher** welcomed their first child, **Evan Joseph Asher**. . . . **Jaime Bergman** and husband **David Boreanaz** are also changing diapers for their first child, son **Jaden Rayne**. . . . E Network has green-lighted *The Anna Nicole Smith Show*, a half-hour reality-TV series about her roller-coaster life. . . . We can't wait to watch *Stripperella*, the animated TV show by Spider-Man creator **Stan Lee**, featuring the voice of **Pamela Anderson**. "I love having a cartoon because I can get old, wrinkly and fat, and I can sit on a farm in Detroit," Pam says. . . . **Julie Cialini's** movie *Wolfhound* (pictured) debuted at the Cannes Film Festival. Across the pond, Julie joined an international array of supermodels at the 20th anniversary gala for Guess clothing in Los Angeles. . . . **David Lee Roth's** video *Dave's No Holds Bar-B-Que* features the **Dahm** triplets, **Reneé Tenison** and **Victoria Fuller**. . . . **Michele Rogers, Neriah Davis, Nicole Nerain** and **Deanna Brooks** joined **Brooke Burke** on a tour of the Sunset Strip to promote the search for a new *Wild On* host. . . . **Lari Laine's** husband, **George Sidney**, passed away recently. . . . **Danelle Folta** met *West Wing* star **Allison Janney** at the Mansion. . . . **Julie McCullough** could be starting a trend: divorce parties. When she hosted one at the club Platinum Live in Studio City, **Jamie Foxx** and **Tia Carrere** showed up.

Julie Cialini in *Wolfhound*.

Danelle and Allisan Janney.

Lenny Kravitz *(continued from page 111)*

That's like asking if white people are stealing rap from black people. White kids rap all over the place.

6

PLAYBOY: You're a big fan of John, Paul, George and Ringo. Please deconstruct the appeal of the Beatles.

KRAVITZ: They wrote incredible songs with incredible melodies. You had four musicians who were the four right guys at the right time with the right look. It was phenomenal. But the bottom line is, the music was unstoppable and they made records that changed the world.

7

PLAYBOY: The Beatles covered songs by the Isley Brothers and Chuck Berry. Are you proud of a Lenny Kravitz cover?

KRAVITZ: *American Woman*. It worked out well. I never would have thought of doing that song. It was for *Austin Powers*, and the movie producers suggested it. I always loved the vocal on that song, the way the guy sang it, it fit right into the whole groove. I did it differently. I went into the studio and made a demo of it—which ended up being the real version. My funk album that's coming out next has a cover of *Dear Prudence* from the White Album. It's the second cover I've done and is pretty different.

8

PLAYBOY: From the Delta to Detroit, from coast to coast, geography and music have made a rich mixture. Give us the Lenny Kravitz musical atlas.

KRAVITZ: Motown was the first music I really got into. First the Jackson Five and Stevie Wonder and the Temps and Marvin Gaye, Gladys Knight and the Pips. You listen to those records, you've got big arrangements, great rhythm sections, strings. Berry Gordy created history. That was an era. Then I got into Al Green records, which I then found out were from Hi in Memphis. That's where the great producer Willie Mitchell made records with people like Ann Peebles, who did *I Can't Stand the Rain*. Philadelphia was Gamble and Huff, the Sound of Philadelphia.

9

PLAYBOY: A gentleman we know was delighted to discover an Erroll Garner LP among his girlfriend's rock albums. We understand you acknowledge a debt to jazz artists.

KRAVITZ: Erroll Garner was cool. I was totally into Miles Davis and John Coltrane and Sarah Vaughan and Louis Armstrong. I started going to hear Bobby Short at the Café Carlyle when I was five or six years old. I wasn't really getting what it was at all, just being dragged by my parents to go sit at the Carlyle in a jacket. By the time I was 10 years old I just got it. I just loved it. Bobby Short is a great piano player, and he's an incredible singer. His interpretation and delivery are the best. He does Rodgers and Hart, Cole Porter and Gershwin like no one else does. He has that magical thing, man. I want to produce a record with him. Bobby and I and Ahmet Ertegun had a conversation about doing this record of Harlem tunes and duets with all these great people like Aretha Franklin or Natalie Cole or Diana Krall or Tony Bennett.

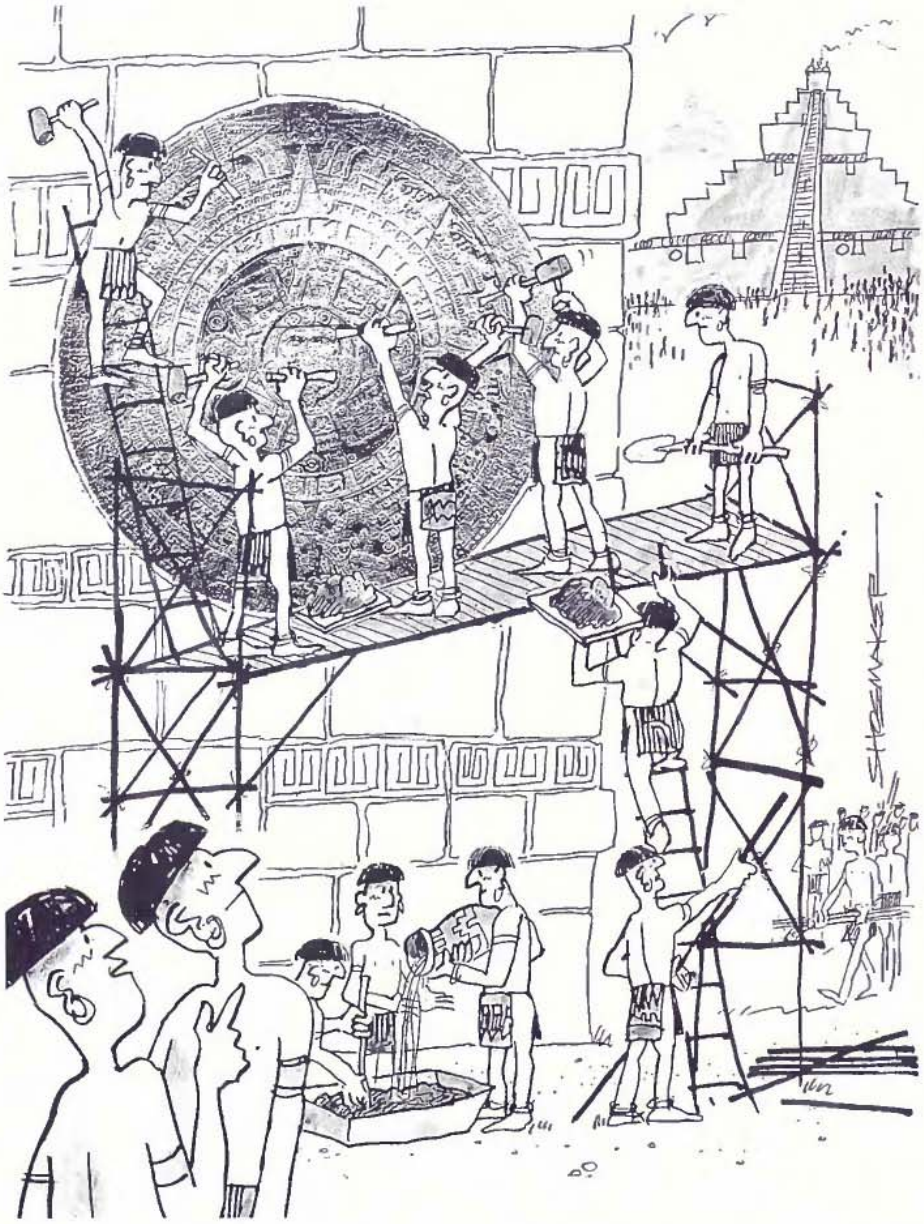
10

PLAYBOY: Some critics have mentioned you and Jimi Hendrix in the same sentence. Do you want to be modest about your guitar playing or give a more considered answer?

KRAVITZ: I couldn't even go near that question. As far as I'm concerned, I'm still learning how to play. I don't know what kind of musician I consider myself. I'm a guitar player, but I love all the instruments. I'm a one-man band. That's what I do. I think it's my talent.

11

PLAYBOY: We hear plenty of guitar and keyboards in your music. Would you



"Hey, up there . . . it's 30 days hath September . . . !"

WHERE & HOW TO BUY

Below is a list of retailers and manufacturers you can contact for information on where to find this month's merchandise. To buy the apparel and equipment shown on pages 30, 32, 43–44, 80–85, 112–113, 116–117 and 157, check the listings below to find the stores nearest you.

MUSIC

Page 30: *Astralwerks*, astralwerks.com. *Emperor Norton*, emperornorton.com. *Fat Possum*, fatpossum.com. *Fat Wreck Chords*, fatwreck.com. *JCR*, compostrecords.com. *Klein*, kleinrecords.com. *Matador*, matadorrecords.com/jsbx. *Proper*, proper-records.co.uk. *Side One Dummy*, sideonedummy.com. *Sub Pop*, subpop.com. *Vagrant*, vagrant.com.

WIRED

Page 32: *Activision*, activision.com. *AOL*, aol.com. *Handspring*, 888-565-9393. *Jetlog*, jetlog24x7.com. *Microsoft*, microsoft.com. *Sierra*, sierra.com. *Sony*, station.com. *Xybernaut*, xybernaut.com. *Yahoo*, yahoo.com.

MANTRACK

Pages 43–44: *Bellagio Hotel*, 702-693-7111. *Cooking School of Aspen*, 800-603-6004 or cookingschoolofaspen.com. *Jose Cuervo*, cuervo.com. *Maybach*, mbusa.com. *Olhausen Billiards Manufacturing*, 800-866-4606 or olhausenbilliards.com. *Riedel*, riedelcrystal.com. *World Dodgeball Association*, 312-242-4787 or worlddodgeball.com.

FASHION FORECAST

Pages 80–85: *ABS*, absstyle.com. *Giorgio Armani*, giorgioarmani.com. *Bills Khakis*, billskhakis.com. *Hugo Boss*, 800-HUGO-BOSS. *Anne Bowen*, 212-489-7768. *Brioni*, brioni.com. *Kenneth Cole*, 800-KEN-COLE. *D&G*, dolcegabbana.com. *Alfred Dunhill*, 800-860-8362. *Salvatore Ferragamo*, 800-445-1874. *Halston*, 212-282-1200. *Hickey-Freeman*, hickeyfreeman.com. *Gianluca Isaia*, isaia.it. *Johnston and Murphy*, 800-424-2854. *Bobby Jones*, bobbyjones.com. *Donna Karan*, 866-240-4700. *Michael Kors*, michaelkors.com. *Marley Mac*, marleymac.com. *Thierry Mugler*, thierrymugler.com. *New York Hat Co.*, 800-255-8261. *Samsonite*, samsonite.com. *Sean John*, seanjohn.com. *Stefano Ricci*, stefanoricci.com. *Paul Smith*, 212-627-9770. *H. Stern*, 212-753-5595. *Suzanne Couture Millinery*, suzannemillinery.com. *John Varvatos*, 212-965-0700. *Stuart Weitzman*, stuartweitzman.com. *Helen Yarmak*, 212-245-0777.

SIZE COUNTS

Pages 112–113: *Fujitsu*, fujitsu.com. *Mitsubishi*, 800-332-2119. *Panasonic*, 800-211-7262. *Proton*, 562-404-2222. *Samsung*, 800-726-7864. *Sharp*, 800-237-4277. *Sony*, 800-222-7669. *Toshiba*, 800-631-3811. *ViewSonic*, 800-888-8583. *Zenith*, 877-993-6484 or zenith.com.

POWER CHORDS

Pages 116–117: *Boss*, rolandus.com. *Fender*, fender.com. *Gibson Guitars*, gibson.com. *Line 6*, line6.com. *Music Playground*, musicplayground.com. *Tascam*, tascam.com. *Yamaha*, yamaha.com.

ON THE SCENE

Page 157: *Aeroskin*, aeroskin.com. *Atomic Aquatics*, 888-270-8595 or atomicaquatics.com. *Canon*, usa.canon.com. *Oceanic*, oceanicusa.com. *Scubapro*, scubapro.com. *Sea and Sea*, seaandsea.com. *Sherwood Scuba*, sherwoodscuba.com. *Underwater Kinetics*, uwkinetics.com. *Uwatec*, uwatec.com.

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describe yourself as a pretty traditional rocker?

KRAVITZ: Traditional, I don't know. A lot of kids play guitar, bass, drums and keyboards. I like to play instruments and feel instruments. I learned on my own. A few guitar lessons—I learned some chords when I was a kid. That's it. I practiced drums, bass and keyboards. Just stayed in my room and practiced. I choose to play instruments as opposed to getting the sounds out of boxes, meaning you can buy these things and all these sounds come out and you don't really have to play. You just program them. I like synthesizers. I like the sound of older synthesizers better than new ones. They sound much cooler and more hip and modern than new ones.

12

PLAYBOY: Did singing with the California Boys' Choir get you hooked on live performance?

KRAVITZ: I learned a lot in the boys' choir, before and during puberty. It was crazy. When I was 11 and 12 years old, I got to work with some of the greatest artists in the world. I sang with the New York City Opera Company and the Joffrey Ballet. I recorded with Zubin Mehta. I performed live with conductors Erich Leinsdorf and Michael Tilson Thomas. I learned so much about music and got to perform these great pieces—my first professional concert was opening night at the Hollywood Bowl, Mahler's Third Symphony with Erich Leinsdorf and the Los Angeles Philharmonic and it was like, *wow!*

13

PLAYBOY: We take it that boys' choirs have come a long way from the castrati of the Italian stage and have mastered the outplacement process. Do they let you down gently?

KRAVITZ: Once you can't sing the second alto parts, you're gone. All of a sudden your voice starts cracking and breaking. It goes from first soprano to second alto. There are no tenors.

14

PLAYBOY: Your mother was a successful actress [Roxie Roker, known for her role as Helen Willis on *The Jeffersons*] and your father was a television producer. Can you possibly come up with a tale of tough times paying your dues?

KRAVITZ: I moved out when I was 15. I needed to find my own way. I needed to start exploring my music and I had to become independent from my parents. I lived in a car, slept on floors. I lived in lounges of recording studios at night. I was playing for free, jamming with people, going into the studio. No $30 gigs—shit, nothing, not 30 cents. I didn't make a dime playing music until I got a record deal. I just went off into the world, man,

did my thing, paid my dues. Living in a car wasn't a good trip.

15

PLAYBOY: Did you endure a period when your 13-year-old daughter listened to 'N Sync and O-Town CDs?

KRAVITZ: The boy bands, no. I took her to meet Britney once. She's into Gwen Stefani now. She loves No Doubt.

16

PLAYBOY: You've been spotted beside the runways at fashion shows in Milan and New York. As an observer of the collections, would you nominate Sean Combs for best crossover from music to fashion with his Sean John clothing collection?

KRAVITZ: I think it's another business for him. A lot of musicians like to dress in a way that helps express their whole vibe. I feel comfortable. I'm in my pajamas right now.

17

PLAYBOY: Should every rock and roller have a big dog?

KRAVITZ: I don't know. Mine's a Neapolitan mastiff. Raised him from a puppy. He doesn't go on tour, but he's traveled all over. He's mellow. He just kind of lies around. He doesn't move much.

18

PLAYBOY: You lead off your current CD with the sound of gunfire and explosions. Is it really a *Battlefield of Love* out there?

KRAVITZ: Oh, yeah. I was thinking about the relationships I've had, I'm having and trying to have. It's always a trip for me. Just feels like this sting. It's never easy. Maybe it will be one day.

19

PLAYBOY: Can you recommend some bedroom music? What should we put on while we're getting it on?

KRAVITZ: Miles Davis. His *Kind of Blue* is nice. And Coltrane's *Ballads*. Of course, Marvin Gaye is always good. No Kravitz for me during sex. I'll start thinking about work, whether the EQ on the drum was exactly what I wanted.

20

PLAYBOY: What goes through a rocker's mind when he steps into an elevator and hears an all-strings rendition of his music?

KRAVITZ: I thought it was great. I have heard my music on Muzak, which was very interesting. I've heard my music in supermarkets, department stores and in doctor's offices. It was funny, psychedelic in a weird way. Like taking a weird pill. [*Whispers*] Everything's all strings.

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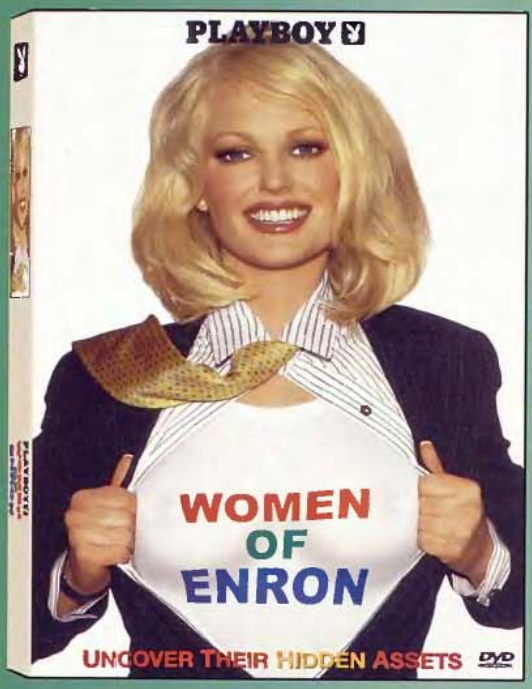

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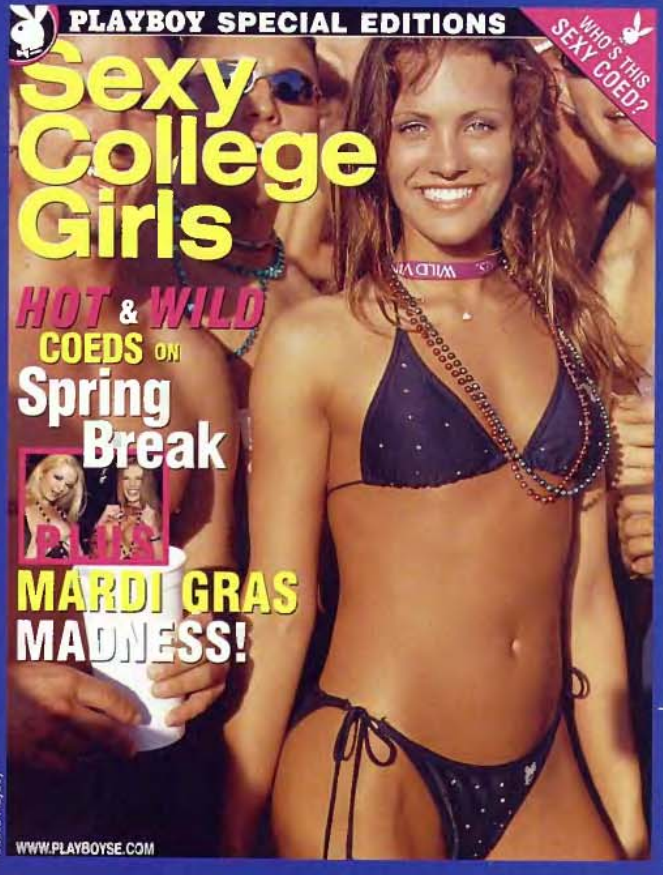

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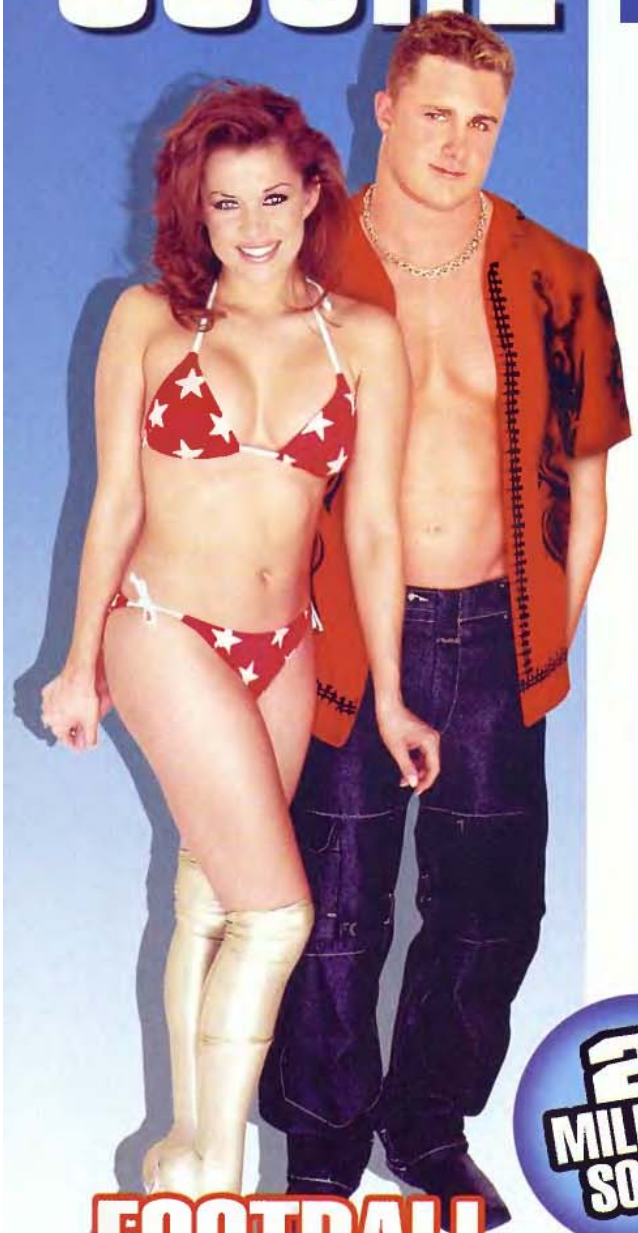

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- Craig Walendy

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PLAYBOY on the scene

WHAT'S HAPPENING, WHERE IT'S HAPPENING AND WHO'S MAKING IT HAPPEN

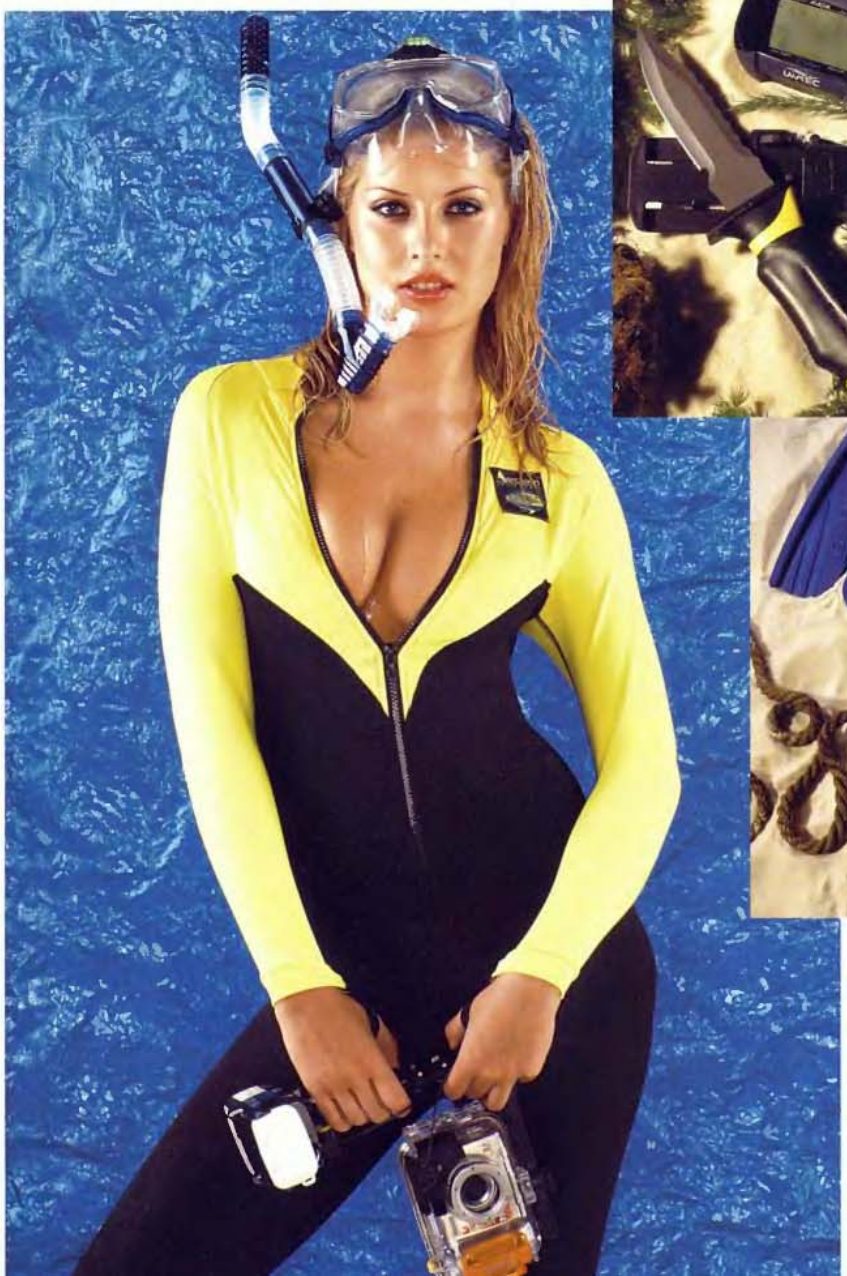
GOING DOWN IN STYLE

With a diving buddy like this, who wouldn't want to scuba? The sport has become more popular in the past few years, thanks to streamlined equipment, easy instructions for beginners and an increase in destinations that cater to divers. Titanium is the metal of choice for regulators (the gizmo you breathe through underwater). It's light and comfortable–important attributes, considering you'll be stuck holding it in your mouth. Split fins, modeled after whales' fins, are preferred because they increase speed and mobility. Readouts from the latest dive computers provide information on depth safety and how much air is in your tank. But the really good news is that the clammy, rubber wet suits like the one Lloyd Bridges wore on *Sea Hunt* have been deep-sixed in favor of colorful, zip-front styles. They're easier to get on and off and provide protection from the tropical sun. It's a look that has us clapping like seals.

—LYNN SELDON

Left: Uwatec's Air Z Nitroc hoseless dive computer (with transmitter) is worn like a watch ($1260); the Blue Tang corrosion-resistant titanium dive knife from Underwater Kinetics will cut you free from fishing line and other underwater debris ($90). Below: Scubapro's Twin Jet adjustable fins ($189 per pair), an all-titanium T1X regulator from Atomic Aquatics ($1596) and Sherwood's Outback Buoyancy Compensator, which enables divers to float underwater ($600). An optional BC Pro Kit ($100) with several accessories, including a flashlight and knife, is also available.

RICHARD IZUI



Left: Aeroskin's zip-front polyolefin diving suit is available in a variety of colors ($100). Perched on our model's head is Oceanic's transparent-blue Light Vision 3 mask, which is ideal for night diving ($125), and a matching Pocket Snorkel that folds away fnr storage ($35). The camera is Canon's PowerShnt A40 digital model ($400), inside Sea and Sea's WP-40 underwater housing unit ($240). The YS-25DX digital light package ($589) is also by Sea and Sea. They are a good pair for shooting below sea level.

WHERE AND HOW TO BUY ON PAGE 154.

Grapevine

The Sum of Their Parts

SUM 41 won our latest music poll for Next Big Thing, and our readers were right. Look for *What We're All About* on the *Spider-Man* soundtrack, and for more quirky fun, get their new CD next month.

Give Me Some Skin

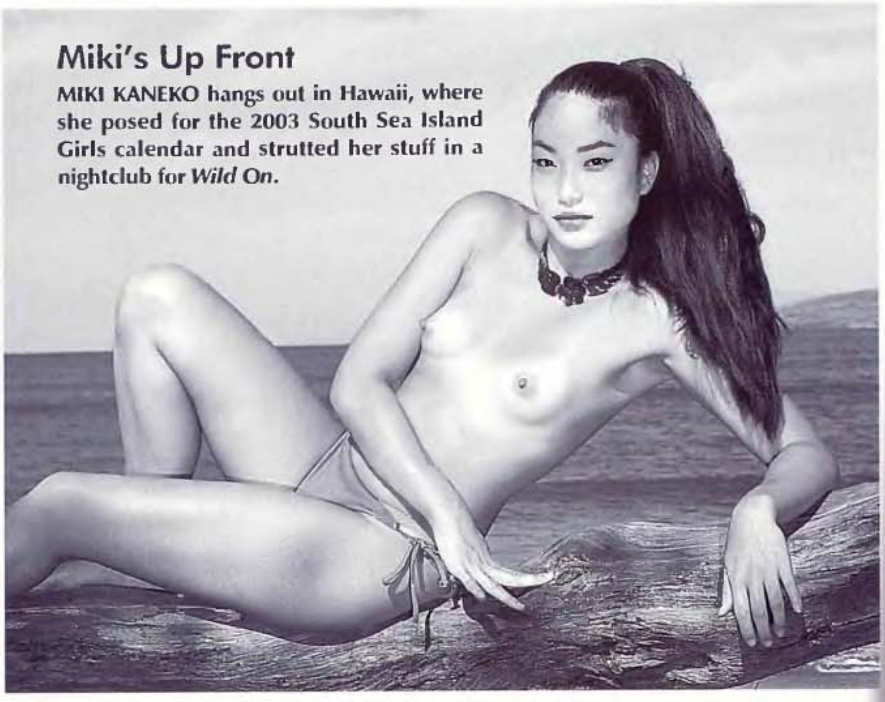
Who hasn't seen CHRISTINA AGUILERA's belly button? It was out at the Grammys, the Golden Globes and the MTV Movie Awards. Buy Christina's new CD and see what else she reveals.

Tara on the Rocks

Former Miss California Teen All American TARA RICE's big-screen credits include *American Pie 2* and *Austin Powers 3*. If you want to see sexy black lace on the beach, check this out. Just hold the sand.

Miki's Up Front

MIKI KANEKO hangs out in Hawaii, where she posed for the 2003 South Sea Island Girls calendar and strutted her stuff in a nightclub for *Wild On*.



Messing Around

***Will and Grace*'s DEBRA MESSING hit the big screen in *Hollywood Ending* and *The Mothman Prophecies*. But most fans are focused on Grace's biological clock—until they see this photo, that is.**

Awesome Aussie

KASEY CHAMBERS is the critics' darling, and her CD *Barricades and Brickwalls* made that country-to-rock crossover trip with ease. Next time she sings in your town, get over there.

All Tied Up

KARY BROWN donned swimsuits for MTV and *Wild On* in Honolulu and graced the cover of the Island Beauty calendar.

Potpourri

CAR ON YOUR CUFF

So you don't own a Ferrari 250 GTO. Be a big spender and sport one on your wrist. The white and yellow gold Ferrari cuff links from Jewelry by Gauthiér pictured here cost $2650 a pair, far less than the car. The links were created in conjunction with the Gauthiér Classic rally that will be run this October in Arizona. Cuff links of other cars are available, or Gauthiér can create almost any car design from photos. Call 480-941-1707 for more information.

LET'S GET JUICED AND NAKED

"When you tell people you work for Naked Juice, their eyes widen," says the company's vice president of marketing, Bill Sipper. Naked Food-Juices, Smoothies and Superfoods (fortified smoothies) have been available in California for years, but now the parent company, Ultimate Juice, is taking the brand nationwide. Look for bottles of juice with names such as Zenergy (it contains three ginsengs) at retailers, or go to nakedjuice.com. Price: about $2.80. Why are the company's juices Naked? Because they're all made from "bare-naked fruit" with no sugar added. That works for us.

IT'S A JANESKO

Jennifer Janesko is recognized as one of the world's premiere pin-up artists. That's why we've featured her work in PLAYBOY for years. Now more than 120 of her best color and black-and-white images are collected in *Jennifer Janesko*. One of our favorites, *Sitting Pretty*, is pictured below. The price for the book is $30—or $47 if you want it signed by Janesko. To order a copy, call 877-332-8989 or go to her website, janesko.com.

HOT TO PLAY BALL

Think Roger Clemens throws heat? Wait until you try Hot Sauce Harry's New York Yankees Hot Sauce, Nacho Cheese Sauce, Picante Salsa or Ballpark Nacho Kit. The Yankees are just one of 30 baseball teams that have signed a licensing agreement with Hot Sauce Harry's to manufacture products featuring their logos on the labels. The company says many fans buy two bottles of each because the products are being included in team memorabilia displays. Prices range from $5.95 for the hot sauce to $19.95 for the nacho kit. Call 800-588-8979 to order, or go to hotsauceharrys.com. An oak hot-sauce rack is also available.

DUTCH TREAT

Maurice Kanbar is a perfectionist. Skyy vodka, one of his creations, has been heralded for its purity. Now Kanbar has introduced another beverage, Vermeer Dutch Chocolate Cream liqueur, which contains premium vodka, cream from the Netherlands and Dutch chocolate. Smooth. Try Vermeer on the rocks, over ice cream or in iced coffee. Price: about $20 a bottle, in liquor stores.

FIDEL'S FLEET

The ultimate collection of classic American cars isn't at the Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles—it's on the streets of Cuba. More than 60,000 U.S. machines are on the island, including the 1956 Ford shown below, along with Edsels, Chevrolets and Cadillacs. The PBS show *Classic American Cars of Cuba* celebrates them, and you can own a VHS copy for a $75 donation. Go to wliw.org.

CATCH THIS, FUMBLE-FINGERS

Whether your weekend football scrimmage is touch or tackle, Wilson Sporting Goods brings a new dimension to the game. Its American-made Game Saving Technology football combines composite leather laces with a neoprene sublayer for better grip and comfort. According to Wilson, 82 percent of players in a blind test preferred the GST over competitors' game balls. Too bad the Carolina Panthers aren't using it. The price: about $80, in department and sporting goods stores.

HOW SUITE IT WAS

Yves Montand and Marilyn Monroe played out their famous affair at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Al Capone slept at the Biltmore in Miami and Leon Trotsky crashed at the Hacienda San Miguel Regla in Mexico. Ian Fleming's Jamaican villa, Goldeneye, can be rented. *Hotel Stories* by Francisca Matteoli celebrates these and 34 other "legendary hideaways of the world" with gossipy info accompanied by photos. Price: $34.95. Assouline is the publisher.

UP SHE RISES

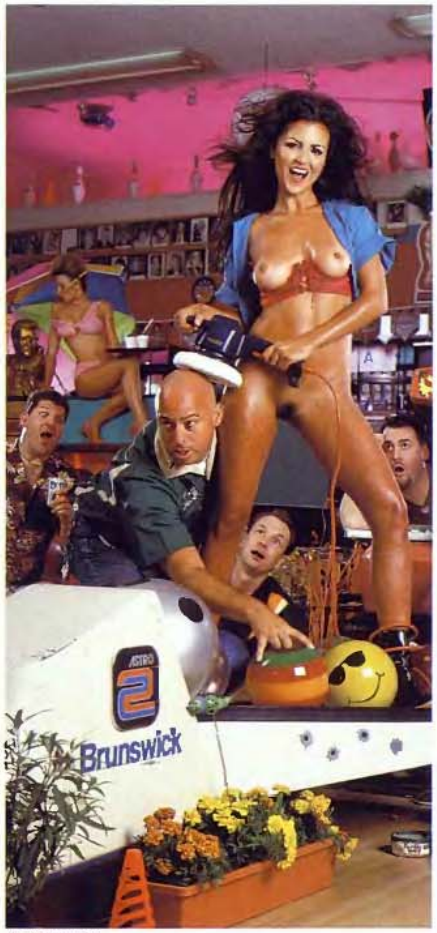
If you're going to eat alone, do it in style. Pine & Design Imports' 42-inch-square coffee table is 19 inches high, but its top can easily be raised to 26 inches and moved forward via an extension bracketed for comfortable dining. (That beats a wobbly TV tray anytime.) The company keeps an inventory of the table (available only in pine) at its store at 511 West North Avenue in Chicago. Price: $975. (The company's 18,000-square-foot showroom features antique and reproduction furniture made of seasoned European wood.) Call 312-640-0100 to order; Pine & Design ships nationwide.

Next Month

BIG 12

COLLEGE FICTION

GRIM HARVEST



JUGGY GIRLS

GIRLS OF THE BIG 12—IT'S THE NATION'S BREADBASKET—KANSAS, NEBRASKA, TEXAS, OKLAHOMA—WHERE THE COLLEGE GIRLS GET CRAZY ABOUT FOOTBALL. HOW CRAZY? YOU JUST WAIT AND SEE

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PREVIEW—LAST YEAR WE PICKED THE NATIONAL CHAMP BEFORE THE SEASON BEGAN. OUR STUDS THIS YEAR? WE'RE NOT TELLING—NOT YET. BUT DON'T MISS THE TOP 40 TEAMS, PLUS PLAYBOY'S ALL AMERICAS. SPORTS BY **GARY COLE**

AL MICHAELS—"DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?" HE SHOUTED AT THE HISTORIC U.S. HOCKEY WIN. THE GREAT PLAY-BY-PLAY SPORTSCASTER IS BACK IN THE MONDAY NIGHT BOOTH AND WE'RE THRILLED. INTERVIEW BY **KEVIN COOK**

HOW TO TALK A WOMAN INTO HAVING SEX—EVERY NIGHT NOT-SO-GOOD-LOOKING GUYS GO HOME WITH GORGEOUS WOMEN. WHAT'S THEIR SECRET? TO PARAPHRASE GEORGE CLINTON, FREE HER MIND AND HER ASS WILL FOLLOW. **DEAN KUIPERS** PROVIDES THE DIRTY DETAILS ON THE FINE ART OF PERSUASION

YOU BE THE JUDGE—THE FIRST AMENDMENT SEEMS SIMPLE—BUT DON'T BE DECEIVED. CAN A FOURTH GRADER WEAR A PACKERS JERSEY TO A VIKINGS-SPONSORED PIZZA PARTY? CAN A MAN HAND OUT ANTI-AMERICAN LEAFLETS NEAR THE TWIN TOWERS RUINS? FREE SPEECH OR NOT FREE SPEECH? YOU DECIDE. BY **CHIP ROWE**

JAMIE OLIVER—THE NAKED CHEF IS NO FLASH IN THE PAN. ON THE MENU: THE OLD IN-OUT ON THE DINNER TABLE, BEING BALLSY IN THE KITCHEN, IMPRESSING HER WITH SEA BASS AND WHAT TO SERVE THE MORNING AFTER. A SUMPTUOUS 20Q BY **WARREN KALBACKER**

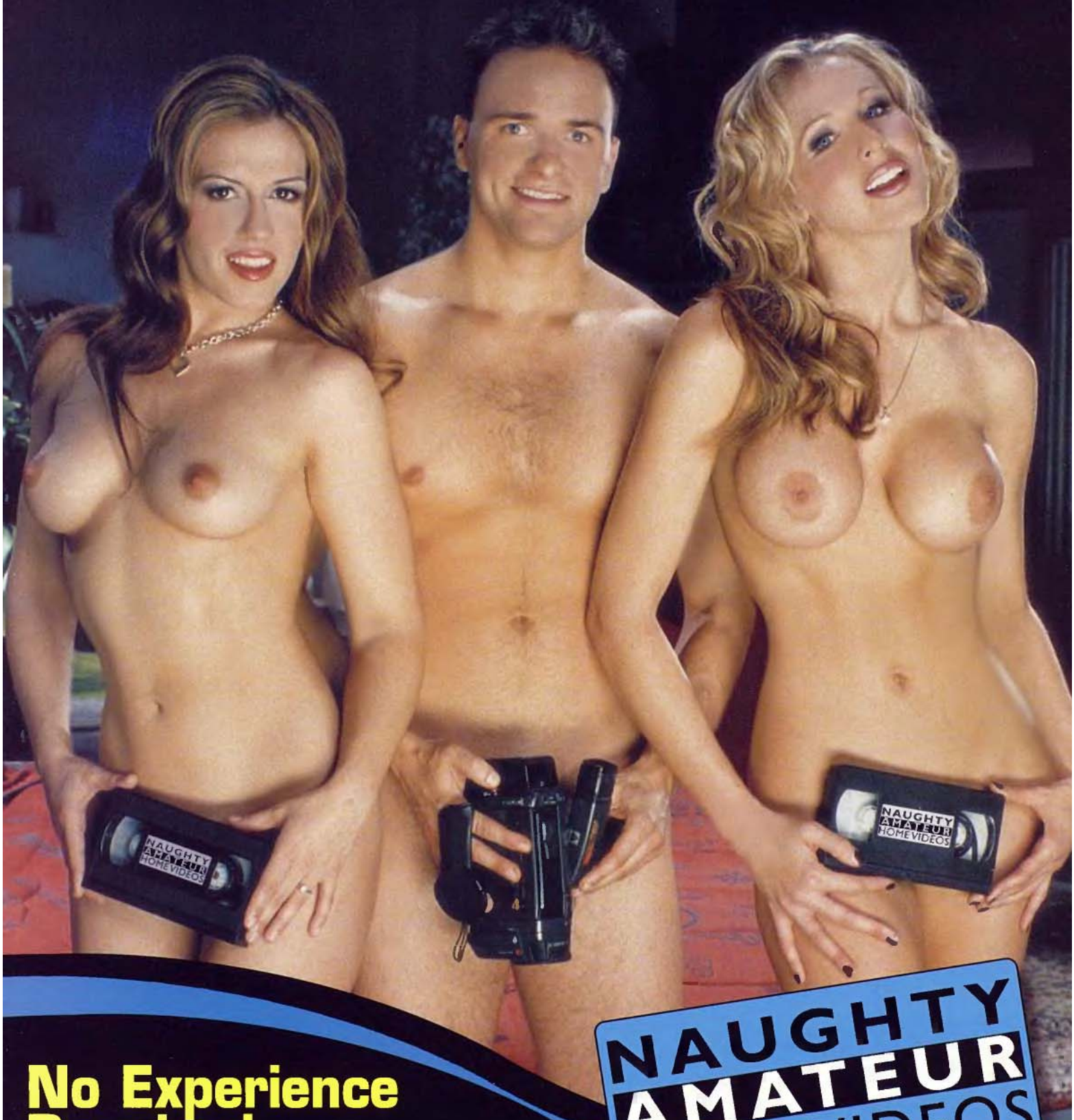
GRIM HARVEST—HERE IS THE HEART-STOPPING TRUTH ABOUT ORGAN DONATION: NOT EVERY DONOR IS 100 PERCENT DEAD. STILL WANT TO CHECK THAT BOX ON YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE? ARTICLE BY **STEVE SALERNO**

ELVIS ONE—THE KING HAS LEFT THE BUILDING—HE'S ALSO LEFT SUPERCOOL MEMORABILIA. ON THE EVE OF ELVIS' NEW GREATEST-HITS CD, MUSIC EDITOR **BARBARA NELLIS** PICKS RARELY SEEN SWAG FROM GRACELAND

THE JUGGY GIRLS—*THE MAN SHOW*'S MASCOTS JUMP OFF THEIR TRAMPOLINES AND INTO AN ALL-NUDE PICTORIAL. ADAM AND JIMMY WILL BE PROUD

QUE-LINDA TAKES THE RITE AID—A FEARLESS TRANSVESTITE AND HER COHORTS FACE OFF AGAINST THEIR MANAGER IN A DRUGSTORE REBELLION. BY COLLEGE FICTION WINNER **MORGAN AKINS**

PLUS: THE LATEST BACK-TO-CAMPUS FASHIONS, ROBOTS THAT ARE SMARTER THAN YOU, SURVIVAL GEAR FOR URBAN STREETS, **LINDSEY VUOLO** TALKING SEX, AND MISS OCTOBER **TERI HARRISON**



No Experience Required

Everyone needs a partner in crime, especially when you're testing sexual boundaries! Come along with these naughty novices as they push the envelope of erotic adventure. Join hosts Julia Ann and Dirk Roberts as they welcome their new host: adult star Inari Vachs!

NAUGHTY AMATEUR HOMEVIDEOS

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